

French mediator meets Abu Nidal group

BEIRUT (R) — French mediator Lucien Bitterlin arrived in Beirut on Saturday to try to secure the release of two young French girls held by a Palestinian guerrilla group. He was immediately taken to a Palestinian refugee camp in west Beirut to meet members of the Fateh Revolutionary Council (FRC), led by Abu Nidal. FRC guerrillas seized the two girls, aged five and six, along with their French mother Jacqueline Valente and five Belgians, from a yacht off the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip on Nov. 8. Bitterlin, president of the French-Arab Solidarity Association, told reporters at the airport on arrival from Paris that the release of the girls was imminent. "I am here on a personal mission. I came for the release of the two girls," he said. "I was told that the two girls are in good health and well treated."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة العربية

Volume 13 Number 3669

AMMAN, SUNDAY JANUARY 3, 1983, JAMADA AL AWWAL 13, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Decree approves Islamic court statute

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing the statute of the International Islamic Court of Justice, which was approved by the fifth Islamic summit conference held in Kuwait last year. The setting up of the Jeddah-based court is aimed at settling differences among member states of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Cabinet approves laws and amendments

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers held an ordinary session under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Saturday and approved several draft laws and amendments to legislation. Among the draft laws approved were one related to narcotics and an amendment to the Press and Publications Law and to the law governing the Academy of Arabic. The Cabinet also approved a pension scheme for agricultural engineers.

Israeli planes raid Palestinian camp in Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — At least two Israeli planes attacked Palestinian targets near the refugee camp of Ain Hilweh on Saturday, witnesses said. They said the planes pounded Palestinian positions near Ain Hilweh, east of this port 40 kilometres south of Beirut. Black smoke billowed from the area after the three-minute strike but police had no immediate casualty figures. About 80,000 Palestinians live in the Ain Hilweh camp and nearby settlements. Israeli air strikes into Lebanon, many of them against Sidon Palestinian camps, killed at least 91 people and wounded more than 200 last year.

Genscher to visit Syria this month

BONN (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will visit Syria from Jan. 14-16 to discuss ways of finding a basis for peace in the Middle East, the Bonn Foreign Ministry said on Saturday. Mr. Genscher's visit was directly connected with visits he made late last year to Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan and Cairo and with a working visit to Bonn last November by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, the ministry added.

Grenades explode near Syrian post

BEIRUT (AP) — Two rocket-propelled grenades exploded near a Syrian army checkpoint in west Beirut on Saturday, causing damage but no casualties. The successive blasts across the street from the seven-storey building housing the offices of AP and the American CBS and NBC broadcast networks wrecked several parked cars. The grenades slammed after nightfall into an empty beauty parlor about 10 metres from a sandbagged Syrian checkpoint near the bomb-ravaged Commodore Hotel.

Damascus confirms contacts with U.S. over Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said on Saturday it was in contact with the United States on the situation in Lebanon but it was up to the Lebanese themselves to solve their problems. The commentary on Damascus Radio was the first official confirmation of Syrian talks with Washington about Lebanon. Government officials were unavailable for comment. "It is wrong for any Lebanese to believe that the American-Syrian contacts being conducted over the Lebanese issue could result in a solution for Lebanon or even be forced on the Lebanese," the commentary said.

Palestinians observe protest against Israeli army and mass arrests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians burned tyres, set up roadblocks and closed stores in Arab Jerusalem and Ramallah on Saturday in protest against the deployment of thousands of Israeli troops and mass arrests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said Israeli troops shot and wounded an Arab demonstrator who threw stones in Nablus, but the army denied this and said the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip remained calm. Eyewitnesses told Reuters troops arrested a few Palestinians in the West Bank town of Ramallah and welded shut the stores of Palestinians who refused to open for business.

In Arab Jerusalem, shopkeepers went on strike but no incidents were reported.

Palestinian sources said the army fired tear-gas and shots in the air to disperse stone-throwing protesters who shattered the windshield of an army vehicle in the West Bank town of Ram. In occupied Gaza, troops in riot gear were out in force but shops were open and there were no reports of protests. A curfew clamped on the Jabalya refugee camp on Friday remained in force.

Cairo police on alert after dispersing anti-Israel rally

CAIRO (R) — Truckloads of riot police guarded strategic vantage points in Cairo on Saturday after dispersing protests on Friday by Muslim fundamentalists against Israeli measures against Palestinians in the occupied territories. Prosecutors began interrogating 26 demonstrators arrested after police baton-charged the anti-Israeli protest march by hundreds of people.

An Interior Ministry statement said: "Some elements, known for their manipulation of crowded places in arousing people... tried to use Friday prayers at Al Azhar Mosque in urging people to stage a demonstration calling for sedition."

A ministry source told Reuters: "The situation is calm and we are keeping a watchful eye. There will be no tolerance of public disorders."

In June last year, security authorities arrested 500 Muslim hardliners after attempts to murder two former interior ministers and a prominent journalist. At least 75 others were indicted on charges of sabotage and trying to overthrow the government.

The Interior Ministry statement said Muslim militants Sheikh Hafez Salama and blind theologian Omar Abdul-Rahman were behind Friday's disturbances, which the semi-official Al-Ahram newspaper said spread to central Cairo.

But the source said neither had been arrested. "Although they called for demonstrations to protest at Israeli violence against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, they did not take to the streets or clash with the police," he said.

The two leaders have received no overt backing from the larger Muslim Brotherhood organisation, a fundamentalist group officially banned since 1954.

Friday's clashes erupted after noon prayers in the 1,000-year-old Al Azhar Mosque when about 400 white-robed demonstrators emerged on the streets, waving copies of the Koran and chanting anti-Israeli slogans.

There were no reports of casualties after Lebanese fighters fired mortars and rocket-propelled grenades at members of the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) near Maydoun, a military spokeswoman said.

Israeli sources said the SLA returned fire, but the fighters escaped. The Israeli helicopter returned fire after being shot at by fighters in the Maydoun area, they said.

Last month, an Israeli soldier was wounded in a clash with Lebanese fighters in Maydoun. Lebanese sources said Saturday's Israeli bombardment destroyed several houses in the villages.

Israel set up the "security zone" in 1985 when it withdrew the troops who invaded Lebanon in 1982. It is patrolled by Israeli soldiers and the SLA militia. Hizbollah said last month it was stepping up its raids on Israeli forces in Lebanon to show support for Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Ahah newspapers published in Arab Jerusalem were banned from distribution Saturday in the West Bank city of Hebron, the agency said. In Qalqilya, troops fired warning shots in the air to disperse protesters who threw stones at Israeli military vehicles, the Palestine Press Service reported. Stone-throwing incidents also took place at the Al Amari camp near Jerusalem, the agency said.

Outside the Faraa detention centre near Nablus, soldiers dispersed about 20 women who attempted to hold a vigil on behalf of prisoners there, Israeli army radio reported. The troops forcibly took the women back to Nablus, the radio said.

By official Israeli count, troops killed at least 23 Palestinians in more than two weeks of violence in the West Bank and Gaza that began Dec. 8.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, again rejected pressure from the United States Friday and said Israel would deport some of the Palestinians detained after the protests.

"We are talking about a limited number of expulsions, because there is no other choice and there is a real need (for deportations)," Shamir said in Tel Aviv.

(Continued on page 3)

Israel gunships attack 2 Lebanese villages

RASHAYA, Lebanon (R) — Israeli helicopter gunships rocketed two South Lebanese villages held by the pre-Islamic Hizbollah (Party of God) movement on Saturday, security sources said.

They said two U.S.-made Cobras fired rockets and machineguns at the villages of Maydoun and Ain Al Tineh, just outside an Israeli-declared "security zone," while Israeli-backed gunners shelled the area.

The Israeli military has launched more than 20 air raids against Palestinian and Lebanese targets in Lebanon last year.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli army said Lebanese fighters fired at an Israeli helicopter gunship flying over southern Lebanon on Saturday after Israeli-backed militia clashed with resistance forces in the area.

There were no reports of casualties after Lebanese fighters fired mortars and rocket-propelled grenades at members of the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) near Maydoun, a military spokeswoman said.

Israeli sources said the SLA returned fire, but the fighters escaped. The Israeli helicopter returned fire after being shot at by fighters in the Maydoun area, they said.

Last month, an Israeli soldier was wounded in a clash with Lebanese fighters in Maydoun. Lebanese sources said Saturday's Israeli bombardment destroyed several houses in the villages.

Israel set up the "security zone" in 1985 when it withdrew the troops who invaded Lebanon in 1982. It is patrolled by Israeli soldiers and the SLA militia. Hizbollah said last month it was stepping up its raids on Israeli forces in Lebanon to show support for Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Islamic Jihad, a Shi'ite Muslim group believed loyal to the revolutionary Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, claims it is holding several French and American hostages including Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the AP who was abducted March 16, 1985 and is the longest-held foreign hostage in Lebanon.

Islamic Jihad, a Shi'ite Muslim group believed loyal to the revolutionary Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, claims it is holding several French and American hostages including Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the AP who was abducted March 16, 1985 and is the longest-held foreign hostage in Lebanon.

Islamic Jihad, a Shi'ite Muslim group believed loyal to the revolutionary Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, claims it is holding several French and American hostages including Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the AP who was abducted March 16, 1985 and is the longest-held foreign hostage in Lebanon.

Islamic Jihad, a Shi'ite Muslim group believed loyal to the revolutionary Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, claims it is holding several French and American hostages including Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the AP who was abducted March 16, 1985 and is the longest-held foreign hostage in Lebanon.

Islamic Jihad, a Shi'ite Muslim group believed loyal to the revolutionary Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, claims it is holding several French and American hostages including Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the AP who was abducted March 16, 1985 and is the longest-held foreign hostage in Lebanon.

King meets Omani minister of state for defence

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, received at the Armed Forces General Headquarters on Saturday the Omani minister of state for defence affairs, Al Mutasem Ibn Hmoud Al Bousaidi, who began a visit to Jordan earlier in the day.

Mr. Bousaidi conveyed to His Majesty greetings from Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman. The King discussed with Mr. Bousaidi cooperation between Jordan and Oman.

The audience was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Earlier on Saturday, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai received the Omani minister, and discussed with him cooperation and relations between Jordan and Oman and means of boosting them. The meeting was attended by Omani Ambassador to Jordan Bashir Ibn Salim Al Faraj.

In a meeting earlier with Field Marshal Sharif Zaid, Mr. Bousaidi was briefed on the development and duties of the Jordanian Armed Forces.



His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday confers with the minister of state for defence of the Sultanate of Oman, Mr. Al Mutasem Ibn Hmoud Al Bousaidi, at the Armed Forces General Headquarters in Amman. (Petra photo)

Eight-member committee begins talks today on Arab organisations

AMMAN (J.T.) — An eight-member Arab League ministerial committee today opens a three-day meeting here to examine the work and general financial conditions of pan-Arab organisations.

The committee, which groups finance and economy and trade ministers of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria, Iraq, Morocco, Tunisia and Palestine, is chaired by Lebanon's acting prime minister, Dr. Salim Al Hoss.

It was formed by the Arab Economic and Social Council at its 40th meeting held in Tunis to revise the status of these organisations in a bid to promote their performance and improve and increase their productivity.

Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Mughshar said in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, on Saturday.

Dr. Muasher said a team of highly-skilled Arab experts on economic, social and financial affairs had paved the way for the committee by preparing a detailed report on Arab organisations.

The committee, meeting, the minister said, comes in implementation of resolutions adopted by the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit meeting held in Amman.

The pertinent resolutions called on the Arab League to take speedy measures to improve the condition of its affiliated organisations.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, under whose patronage today's meeting will be held, entrusted Dr. Hoss with supervising work for the meeting.

Dr. Hoss, who arrived in Amman on Friday, said in a statement he gave to Petra that the committee would try to promote the work of the Arab League organisations which contribute to pan-Arab economic action. The team of experts has completed its report on the function of these organisations and the ministers will review the report and report on their findings to the next meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council.

(Continued on page 3)

Lebanese army pilot's desertion sparks PSP-rightist confrontation

JIBEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Forces loyal to Lebanon's President Amin Gemayel enforced a blockade against ports held by the mainly Druse Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) on Saturday in a dispute over the desertion of an air force officer in a helicopter gunship.

The PSP militia, led by Transport, Tourism and Public Works Minister Walid Junblat, retaliated by declaring its own blockade of right-wing-held ports and put its 5,000 fighters on alert.

PSP gunners also opened fire at an Israeli gunboat off their coastal strip south of Beirut.

The Lebanese army's ban on shipping along the 20-kilometre strip triggered threats by PSP fighters to hit rightist-held ports and rekindle a dormant civil war.

"We declare the waters between Beirut and the Madfoun bridge in the north a military operations zone," the PSP said in a statement.

The 40-kilometre stretch is controlled by the mainly Christian right-wing "Lebanese Forces" militia. It includes a small naval base for the Lebanese army at Jounieh.

The PSP militiamen fired about 200 rounds from 23-mm, twin-barrelled guns at the Israeli gunboat cruising the Mediterranean around noon (1000 GMT), police said. No hits were observed.

The Soviet-made anti-aircraft batteries in the Shouf mountains southeast of Beirut also opened up at two unidentified jet fighters that flew at a very low altitude over the Mediterranean.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Saturday holds talks with the acting prime minister of Lebanon, Dr. Salim Al Hoss (Petra photo).

mentation of resolutions adopted by the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit meeting held in Amman. The pertinent resolutions called on the Arab League to take speedy measures to improve the condition of its affiliated organisations.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, under whose patronage today's meeting will be held, entrusted Dr. Hoss with supervising work for the meeting.

Dr. Hoss, who arrived in Amman on Friday, said in a statement he gave to Petra that the committee would try to promote the work of the Arab League organisations which contribute to pan-Arab economic action. The team of experts has completed its report on the function of these organisations and the ministers will review the report and report on their findings to the next meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council.

(Continued on page 3)

The company said the attack took place 340 kilometres southeast of Kuwait, where the ship had taken on a load of fertilizer for China.

That would place the attack near Farsi Island, a base for the Revolutionary Guards who carry out most Iranian attacks on neutral shipping.

Reuters photographer Frederic Neema said he saw a large hole at least 1.3 metres in diameter in the Alga's starboard hull about halfway between its deck and the waterline.

Shipping sources said the size and position of the hole on behalf of human dignity.

He appealed as well for an end to the Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan and the resolution of other regional issues that mar U.S.-Soviet ties.

Mr. Reagan did not mention Afghanistan directly, but said: "Too many mothers, including Soviet mothers, have wept over the graves of their fallen sons."

Mr. Gorbachev, in his generally more conciliatory remarks, did not mention "Star Wars."

He spoke of the growing U.S.-Soviet ties in cultural fields and other activities, saying "like thousands of strands, these contacts are beginning to weave into what I would call a tangible fabric of trust and mutual understanding."

Mr. Reagan also reiterated American concern for human rights. "Silence is a form of falsehood. We will always speak out

to signing a treaty to that effect, even in the first half of this year."

But the remarks by Mr. Reagan showed disagreement remained in other aspects of U.S.-Soviet relations despite the agreement to try for a second arms reduction agreement.

Mr. Reagan emphasised his continued support for his strategic defence initiative (SDI), better known as "Star Wars."

The Soviet Union strenuously opposes "Star Wars" and the planned U.S. shield against nuclear weapons could put a roadblock in the path of a cut in long-range nuclear weapons.

Mr. Reagan also reiterated American concern for human rights. "Silence is a form of falsehood. We will always speak out

Maltese freighter rocketed near Farsi

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The Maltese-flag freighter Alga was attacked and damaged, but it was not clear whether it was raided by Iran or Iraq, its operators and Gulf salvage officials said Saturday.

Gulf sources quoted by AP said the 26,260-tonne Alga continued on its journey and anchored Saturday off the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai with a hole in its hull after the New Year's day attack.

A spokesman for the ship operator said in Greece, a rocket hit the vessel just above a cargo hold on the starboard bow.

But the spokesman said the crew of 21 Burmese and five Greeks was uninjured.

He said the captain believed the rocket was fired by Iranians. However well-connected Gulf salvage officials and the London-based Lloyds shipping intelligence unit identified the weapon as a missile, and said there were strong indications it was fired by an Iraqi warplane.

Iraq claimed it struck a "big naval target" off the Iranian coast at 10 a.m. (0700 GMT) New Year's day — the same time the company says the attack took place. Gulf shippers initially put the attack at 10 p.m. (1900 GMT).

The company said the attack took place 340 kilometres southeast of Kuwait, where the ship had taken on a load of fertilizer for China.

That would place the attack near Farsi Island, a base for the Revolutionary Guards who carry out most Iranian attacks on neutral shipping.

Reuters photographer Frederic Neema said he saw a large hole at least 1.3 metres in diameter in the Alga's starboard hull about halfway between its deck and the waterline.

Shipping sources said the size and position of the hole on behalf of human dignity.

He appealed as well for an end to the Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan and the resolution of other regional issues that mar U.S.-Soviet ties.

Mr. Reagan did not mention Afghanistan directly, but said: "Too many mothers, including Soviet mothers, have wept over the graves of their fallen sons."

Mr. Gorbachev, in his generally more conciliatory remarks, did not mention "Star Wars."

He spoke of the growing U.S.-Soviet ties in cultural fields and other activities, saying "like thousands of strands, these contacts are beginning to weave into what I would call a tangible fabric of trust and mutual understanding."

Mr. Reagan also reiterated American concern for human rights. "Silence is a form of falsehood. We will always speak out

to signing a treaty to that effect, even in the first half of this year."

But the remarks by Mr. Reagan showed disagreement remained in other aspects of U.S.-Soviet relations despite the agreement to try for a second arms reduction agreement.

Mr. Reagan emphasised his continued support for his strategic defence initiative (SDI), better known as "Star Wars."

The Soviet Union strenuously opposes "Star Wars" and the planned U.S. shield against nuclear weapons could put a roadblock in the path of a cut in long-range nuclear weapons.

Mr. Reagan also reiterated American concern for human rights. "Silence is a form of falsehood. We will always speak out

Sudan captures 2 Ethiopian troops

Recapture of Gizen completes defeat of rebels

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese troops captured two Ethiopian soldiers when they drove anti-government rebels from a town on the Ethiopian border on Friday, an official source at the Armed Forces General Command said on Saturday.

He told Reuters the Ethiopians were seized when troops recaptured the town of Gizen in Blue Nile province, 590 kilometres south east of Khartoum. He gave no further details.

Khartoum, which has been fighting guerrillas of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) since 1983, accuses Ethiopia of giving direct military support to a major rebel offensive in Blue Nile province. Addis Ababa denies the charge.

The source said the recapture of Gizen completed the defeat of the offensive which began in November, but he said small groups of destitute rebels were probably still in the area.

Troops regained the town of Kurnuk near Gizen on Dec. 22 and two days later they retook the garrison towns of Khartoum-Bilel and Kasbawak.

The Sudan News Agency SUNA said on Thursday an

Ethiopian soldier surrendered to the army at Kurnuk.

The Khartoum daily Al Raya identified him on Saturday as 19-year-old Adane Wald Raphael and quoted him as saying he had surrendered because he opposed the Ethiopian government.

It said he told a news conference in the Blue Nile town of Damazin that 20 Ethiopian troops were killed and 40 wounded when Sudanese troops retook Kurnuk.

Ethiopian tanks, artillery and rocket-launchers were used to help the rebels to seize the town on Nov. 12. Al Raya quoted him as saying, "The SPLA, recruited from the

mainly animist and Christian south, is fighting to end what it sees as the rule of a minority clique in the predominantly Arab and Muslim north of Sudan.

State Radio Omdurman said Gizen was retaken during Friday afternoon after what it called a decisive battle which began at 5.00 a.m. (0300 GMT).

Reporting from the town of Damazin in Blue Nile, the radio said SPLA rebels fled Gizen.

The army's reported victory in Gizen coincided with celebrations marking the 32nd anniversary of independence from Anglo-Egyptian rule and tour by Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi of Blue Nile province.

Over 1,300 killed in Lebanon in 1987

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's war toll fell by nearly half in 1987 as the presence of Syrian troops in Beirut calmed civil strife — although 1,300 people still died violently during the year.

Some 7,000 Syrian soldiers moved into mainly Muslim west Beirut in February to end months of bitter street fighting between rival militias in which 242 people died.

The death toll of 1,300, which included the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami on June 1, was the lowest in eight years and a 48 per cent drop from 1986.

In included 11 Syrian soldiers killed by gunmen, and 22 members of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) shot by Syrians in a single incident in west Beirut.

It was a bad year for the U.N.

peacekeeping force, with five French soldiers and an Irishman killed in South Lebanon. A number of other members of the nine-nation force were wounded.

Two French embassy guards and a French engineer were shot dead by gunmen in Christian east Beirut.

Israeli air raids on Palestinian and Lebanese targets in South Lebanon killed 91 civilians, while 297 people died in clashes between commandos and the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), according to police, hospital and militia sources.

Ten Israeli soldiers died in attacks by Palestinian and pro-Iranian Lebanese commandos.

Prime Minister Karami, a Sunni Muslim, died in a bomb blast

on a helicopter taking him from North Lebanon to Beirut. No-one has yet been arrested for the murder.

Police said 177 people, including many civilians, were killed in the "camps war" between Palestinian commandos and Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia around Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and the south.

Sixty people died in clashes between Falangist and opposition militias and in shelling over the ravaged battle zone splitting Beirut, while car bombs killed another 60.

Other deaths were attributed to factional fighting, random violence and criminal activity. Police blamed the collapse of the country's economy for a number of violent robberies.

New Jerusalem patriarch has hopes for peace

ROME (AP) — The Palestinian named as Roman Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem says he has hopes for peace but has few illusions as he takes up a post with a history reflecting the struggle for control of the Holy Land.

"Everything in the Holy Land is difficult," said Monsignor Michel Sabbah, the Nazareth-born priest appointed by Pope John Paul II as the first Arab patriarch for Latin Rite Catholics.

The Latin Rite Patriarchate was established by the crusaders in 1099 but fell into disuse in the 13th century after Islamic forces recaptured Jerusalem.

It was only restored by Pope Pius IX in 1847 to administer to Latin Rite Catholics in the Holy Land, then mostly of foreign background. The post, the equivalent of an archbishop, has been held by a succession of Italians.

But the Vatican estimates that 85 per cent of the more than 65,000 Latin Catholics in Israel, the Israeli-occupied territories, Jordan and Cyprus are of Arab

origins and says that the choice of an Arab was only natural.

The 54-year-old Sabbah said it was coincidental that he was named at the time of an Israeli crackdown on Palestinian revolt in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He describes the area as a region suffering from lack of peace and says he is willing to work with "all men of good will" to find a solution.

Asked if he had a concrete solution for bringing peace to the Holy Land, Monsignor Sabbah said he didn't feel he had an answer to a problem that has eluded leaders for 40 years.

Monsignor Sabbah was interviewed by the Associated Press on Thursday after he came to Rome for his consecration in St. Peter's Basilica next Wednesday. Friends and associates have described him as a quiet and devout man, and he said of his role: "I must give hope. I must pray. I am a man of prayer."

Acknowledging that Christians were a minority in the area, he said he hoped he could make a

"spiritual contribution" to the peace process.

Several Christian Arab leaders have said the appointment shows Catholic solidarity with Palestinians.

Asked whether the Pope was making a statement with his appointment, Monsignor Sabbah noted that Pope John Paul had spoken out on the new violence a week before the nomination.

In remarks to a crowd in St. Peter's Square, the Pope said the Holy Land "cannot continue to be a theatre of war, opposition and injustice, creating suffering for those people, to whom I feel particularly close."

Asked whether Palestinians have a right to their own state, Monsignor Sabbah responded that Pope John Paul has said all people in the region have a right to a homeland and to dignity and freedom.

Monsignor Sabbah, who spent 20 years as a parish priest in Amman, said, "first of all, I am a pastor. I am a man of my people. I feel I share their suffering and their hopes."

5 Iranians on hunger strike hospitalised

PARIS (AP) — Five Iranians on a hunger strike for 25 days to protest the expulsion of their family and friends by the French government have been hospitalised in the past week, a spokesman for the group said Saturday.

Azam Shakhicain, 32, was hospitalised Friday night after fainting. She remained in Amroise Pare Hospital Saturday.

Four others, who were not identified by name, were admitted to the Henri Duanon Hospital Thursday. The four were later released by the private hospital which said could not keep them if they continued their protest and that it had no authority to force them to stop.

In the Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine, 40 relatives and friends of the expelled Iranians have been conducting their protest since Dec. 8 in front of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees.

In Liherville, Gabon, 14 of the 15 Iranian refugees and the French wife of one of the expelled also have been on a hunger strike. Five of them have been hospitalised.

France to launch Iranian satellite

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran plans to launch its first communications satellite with French help "in the near future," the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Saturday.

The agency, monitored by Nicosia, quoted Post and Telegraph Minister Mohammad Gharazi as saying in an interview published by Tehran's English language Khaybar Daily that the launch will be conducted by France's Ariane space, commercial arm of the European Space Agency.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Egypt's new envoy arrives in Qatar

DOHA (R) — Egypt's new ambassador to Qatar has taken up his post, one week before President Hosni Mubarak's scheduled tour of Gulf states, the embassy said on Saturday. Ambassador Isam Hawas arrived on Friday night, six weeks after Qatar joined other Gulf states in restoring ties with Egypt which they broke after its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel. Mr. Mubarak will visit all six states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which includes Qatar, during his tour which starts on Jan. 9. The Qatari newspaper Al Arab on Saturday quoted Egyptian presidential spokesman Mamdouh Ali Beltagi as saying Mr. Mubarak's tour was important because recent developments in the Middle East required a coordinated Arab stance. Mr. Beltagi cited the Iran-Iraq war raging into its eighth year and December's riots in Israeli-occupied territories in which at least 23 Palestinians died, as major issues of concern. A Kuwaiti newspaper quoted diplomatic sources on Thursday as saying Gulf states had agreed to pay Egypt \$4.5 billion over three years to send 10,000 soldiers to work in their armed forces.

Palestinian broadcasts heard in West Bank

TEL AVIV (R) — A new Palestinian radio station identifying itself as the Voice of Jerusalem began broadcasts on Friday beamed at the Israeli-occupied territories. Palestinian sources said. The strong signal of "Voice of Al-Quds (Jerusalem)" beamed Palestinian nationalistic music on several frequencies, the sources said. Israel's national radio monitor reported that the transmission originated in one of the Palestinian refugee camps near Sidon, in southern Lebanon. Palestinians said the station identified itself in several languages but did not broadcast propaganda.

'CIA helped Mossad abduct Vanunu'

LONDON (AP) — The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) helped Israel's secret service abduct Mordechai Vanunu, accused of treason for allegedly spilling Israel's atomic secrets, the Daily Telegraph reported Saturday, quoting his American girlfriend. In a two-paragraph story from its Tel Aviv correspondent, who was not named, the conservative paper quoted Vanunu's girlfriend, Judy Zimet, as saying Friday that the CIA helped Mossad, the Israeli secret service, abduct Vanunu in Israel in 1986. Vanunu, who worked as a technician at the Israeli nuclear complex at Dimona for 10 years, is currently on trial for treason and espionage in a closed court. He was charged after telling the Sunday Times of London that Israel produces nuclear weapons. Based on his information, the newspaper said Israel was the world's sixth largest nuclear power and had stockpiled more than 100 nuclear weapons. Israel has ever responded to the allegations. Last fall, Vanunu flashed a message to reporters saying he was kidnapped in Rome and brought to Israel. His family has said he was abducted by Israeli agents.

U.K. adventurer meets new setbacks

MUSCAT (R) — British adventurer Brian Milton faltered again on New Year's Day in his attempt to fly a microlight plane from England to Australia in 30 days. Milton took off from Oman's Seeb International Airport in his tiny patched-up aircraft for the 370-kilometre flight across the Arabian Sea to Gwadar in Pakistan. But he turned back to Seeb after only two hours when he ran into rainclouds as low as 2,500 feet (760 metres) — 1,000 feet (300 metres) below his normal altitude. His journey has been plagued by mechanical and fuel problems. He also crashed in Corfu, made an emergency landing on a road in Jordan and ditched into the Gulf on Christmas Day. Milton, a hang-gliding instructor and television journalist, told Reuters on Thursday he now had no chance of getting to Australia in 30 flying days. But, weather permitting on Saturday, he was expected to make another bid to cross the Arabian Sea and continue his flight commemorating a 1919 England-Australia Air Race.

New Burkina leader starts Libya visit

OUAGADOUGOU (R) — President Blaise Compaore of the West African state of Burkina Faso arrived on Saturday in Libya, his second visit abroad since he came to power in October, state-run Ouagadougou Radio reported. Captain Compaore took over when radical President Thomas Sankara, a close friend of Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi, was killed in a coup. The new strong man made his diplomatic debut last week with visits to four of Burkina Faso's neighbours — Benin, Togo, Niger and Mali.

W. Germany begins trial of Hamadei on Tuesday

FRANKFURT, West Germany (AP) — A kidnapping trial opening next week amid tight security will explore Middle East terrorism, and may provide an inside look at the 1985 hijacking of a TWA jetliner.

Abbas Ali Hamadei goes on trial Tuesday in Dusseldorf, charged with kidnapping two West German businessmen in Beirut.

Prosecutors say the kidnapping was aimed at forcing West Germany to free his brother, Mohammad Ali Hamadei, a suspect in the dramatic TWA hijacking to Beirut that left a U.S. Navy sailor dead.

Mohammad Hamadei, arrested at Frankfurt airport on Jan. 13, 1987 for carrying explosives, will be tried later. West Germany's refusal to extradite the 23-year-old Shi'ite Muslim to the United States strained relations between Washington and Bonn.

While the trial of 29-year-old Abbas Hamadei will focus on the kidnappings, it also will delve into his younger brother's role in the complicated events.

"As things are now planned, Mohammad Ali Hamadei will be questioned about his own actions some time in January," said Dusseldorf court spokesman Klaus Forsen.

Abbas Hamadei was arrested at Frankfurt airport, on Jan. 26, 1987, when he arrived on a flight from Beirut.

He is being tried on charges of trying to blackmail the West German government, hostage-taking and having illegal explosives.

The indictment says he helped arrange the Jan. 17, 1987, kidnapping of Rudolf Cordes and the abduction of Alfred Schmidt three days later.

Schmidt was freed on Sept. 7, but Cordes is still a hostage.

Libya expected to join emerging Maghreb bloc

RABAT (R) — An emerging Arab power bloc on Europe's doorstep could expand this year if Libya signs a treaty intended to unite the Maghreb countries, diplomats and analysts said.

Libyan membership could also hasten the creation of a North African Common Market, rich in crude oil, iron ore, phosphates, fish and citrus fruit.

Tipoli's accession is expected on March 19, the fifth anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed by Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania which regard the pact as a basis for Maghreb unity.

"My country will welcome Libya if it applies to join the treaty," Tunisian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri told the Tunisian parliament this week.

Diplomats said the possibility of widening the treaty to include Libya and Morocco was discussed by foreign ministers of the three signatory countries in Algiers last month.

The non-aggression pact which stresses economic cooperation as a step to political unity, falls short of Libya's own formula for Arab unity, diplomats said.

"But by joining the treaty Libya will feel at least less politically isolated," one diplomat said.

Libya is at odds with Arab moderates who seek a negotiated settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Diplomats noted that Algeria has been making all the running to bring Libya into the North African fold, without an explicit parallel move towards Morocco which fears it may be left out in the cold.

Rabat and Algiers, at loggerheads over the 12-year-old West-

ern Sahara conflict, recently started talks on normalising relations which were severed over Algerian support for Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for independence of the former Spanish colony.

Although Algeria has brushed aside Libyan calls for union between the two countries, it has actively sought closer ties with Tripoli.

Last month, the two countries signed four cooperation pacts in manpower, cultural, social insurance and tourism sectors, and abolished visa requirements for each other's nationals.

They have yet to resolve a potentially serious border dispute involving an oilfield area, a French legacy from the days before Algeria became independent.

Algeria has also been credited with restoration of Tunisian-Libyan relations this week after a two-year break.

Few diplomats expect Algeria will succeed in excluding Morocco from the treaty after Libya joins, as the other partners see Rabat as a balancing power against Algerian political influence in North Africa.

Tunisian and Libyan leaders have said there can be no Maghreb unity without Morocco. "The Algerians are simply harassing the Moroccans, perhaps to obtain concessions for settling the Western Sahara conflict," one analyst said.

A United Nations mission spent two weeks in the Western Sahara last month gathering data for arranging a ceasefire and a self-determination referendum, which Morocco has proposed to solve the problem.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 7711-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme Review
15:55 Children's programme
16:05 Dennis the Menace
16:25 Children's programmes
17:20 Isaura
17:45 Local programme
18:15 Soccer
19:10 Local agricultural programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme on Jordan
22:00 T.V. Magazine (local)
23:00 News Summary
23:10 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 L'Ecole des Fous
18:45 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Farnington of the F.O.
21:10 Omnibus Hemingway (documentary)
22:00 News in English
22:20 Secret Army

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 90 MHz FM & partly on 960 KHz. SW

Tel. 7711-19

07:00 Light Music

07:30 Newsdesk

08:00 Morning Show

10:00 News Summary

11:05 In Concert

12:00 News Summary

12:05 Pop Talk

13:00 News Summary

13:05 Pop Session contd.

14:00 News Bulletin

14:10 Instrumentals

14:20 Science Report

15:00 Concert Hour

15:00 News Summary

15:05 Instrumentals

16:30 Old Favourites

17:00 Science Report

18:00 News Summary

18:05 Listener's Choice

19:00 Newsdesk

19:20 Date with a Star

20:00 Evening Show

21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show continued

21:55 News Summary

22:00 Evening Show continued

23:00 News Summary

23:57 News Headline

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

A BBC video display of children's cartoons at the British Council at 4.30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CARTOONS

★ A BBC video display of children's cartoons at the British Council at 4.30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S FILMS

★ Children's French films and cartoons at the Royal Cultural Centre (Jan. 3 to 7).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 64371

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre .. 637009

Goethe Institute .. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre .. 64235

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 63777

Husseini Youth City .. 667816

Y.W.C.A. .. 641793

W.M.A. .. 664251

Amman Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843553

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Hayat Centre. Open all week 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7.30 p.m.

19th Century orientalist artists. Mosaic, Jabel Al-Lawleh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman. Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Al-Lawleh. Tel. 627440.

De la Salette Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Terrazana Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Al-Lawleh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali. Tel. 62354.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabel Amman. Tel. 625383.

chaplain's residence tel. 601359.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771531.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh. Tel. 771531.

Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd): Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 6.30 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 812295.

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd Church): Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Sunday 6.30 p.m. tel. 822605. Rev. Yell.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815-817, 821-264.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) in relation to departure at the Queen Alia International Airport (Tel. 5320-55, where it should always be verified).

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

Ceremony to mark graduation of nurses

AMMAN (Petra) — Some 205 male and female nurses will graduate today in a ceremony to be held at Al Hussein Youth City under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The graduates, who completed their studies at centres set up by the Health Ministry, include 114 from the Jordan Nursing College in Amman, 56 from the nursing and midwifery college in Irbid and 35 from the nursing school in Zarqa.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, six of the graduates

who excelled in their courses will receive special awards at the ceremony.

Petra also said that Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh has decided that a new course for training midwife assistants should be added to the curriculum of the training school in Zarqa. He also decided that 15 new female students be accepted for training, after which they will be employed at health centres throughout the country and new centres which will be opened in the Jerash district.

Distribution of income tax forms begins today

AMMAN (Petra) — Teams from the Income Tax Department today begin distributing income tax forms to businesses, stores, factories and other enterprises.

A department spokesperson said that businesses paying their dues for the past year in January can benefit from a six-per-cent deduction on their income tax: in

February, a four-per-cent; deduction; and in March, a two-per-cent deduction on income tax.

According to the spokesperson, a 24 per cent fine can be imposed on those failing to return the completed forms to the department or to submit their tax payments before the deadline which is the end of April.

Hotel worker receives reward for honesty

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan has presented a reward to an Egyptian hotel worker for his honesty.

Mr. Mohammad Deifallah, an employee at an Amman hotel, two weeks ago found a suitcase belonging to an American tourist staying at the hotel and delivered it to the hotel management. The suitcase, containing \$30,000, three passports and 10 travel tickets, was then given by the hotel management to the owner, who is currently in Jordan within a tourist group.

In the Thursday presentation, the minister paid tribute to the hotel worker for his honesty in returning the lost item.

On Saturday, Amman Police Department Director Major General Nasouh Muhieddin praised a taxi driver for his honesty and integrity.

The driver, Hussein Khaleel Ibrahim, found a wallet containing JD 2,000 worth of jewellery which was left by a woman who rode in his car. He then handed the wallet over to a police centre in Amman.

Health Ministry's drug purchases rise with demand

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health spends between JD 2.5 to JD 3 million annually on purchasing medicine and drugs for its hospitals and health centres and buys nearly 35 per cent of these products from local pharmaceutical companies, according to Navef Hamarneh, director of the ministry's purchases and warehouses department.

He said that samples of all medicines are regularly sent to the ministry's central laboratories for testing before it is distributed to health centres and hospitals.

A special committee is entrusted with studying the Kingdom's medicine needs and making arrangements for purchases, with the assistance of lists of drugs approved by the World Health Organisation, Mr. Hamarneh said.

The past year saw a noticeable increase in the number of health

centres, coupled with an increase in the dispensation of medicine due to the rise in the number of patients and the inclusion of patients those from regions where the new centres were opened, he added.

Mr. Hamarneh said that there are certain types of medicine, like those used in the treatment of cancer, which can only be imported through the Health Ministry, and these are provided to private hospitals in addition to the ministry's health centres. The cost of these drugs in 1987 alone amounted to JD 130,000, he pointed out.

He said that also in the past year, the Ministry of Health improved the quality of equipment and medical appliances used in hospitals and health centres, and recently raised annual allocations for these purchases from JD 300,000 to JD 700,000.

Maltese tanker rocketed

(Continued from page 1)

suggested that the tanker was hit by an Iraq-fired Exocet missile.

There were 34 confirmed attacks on ships in the Gulf last month, the worst month since the tanker war between Iraq and Iran flared in early 1984.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported that Iraqi warplanes bombed the Talah Zink Bridge northeast of the western city of Dezful Saturday and "devastated their target."

The agency quoted a military communiqué as saying all the jets returned from the 12:45 p.m. (0945 GMT) raid. The communiqué said the bridge was being used for military purposes.

The raids came amid expectations that Iran will soon launch a new ground offensive against Iraq. The Iranians have massed

more than 250,000 men in the southern sector of the warfront east of the Iraqi city of Basra, according to military analysts and western diplomats.

In another development, Iranian President Ali Khamenei threatened anew to block all shipping into the Gulf region if Iran was subjected to an international naval blockade. Tehran Radio said Mr. Khamenei also dismissed a possible U.N. arms embargo against his country as a measure "of no use."

A Soviet official in New York said he expected a new round of peace efforts by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to end the war, and said they might be decisive in determining what the U.N. Security Council does next about its July 20 demand for a ceasefire.

PSP, rightists impose blockades

(Continued from page 1)

Fighters from the PSP, which ships most of its Syrian and Soviet-supplied weapons through Jiyeh and Khaleel, opened fire with a heavy machine-gun on a patrol boat which approached the coast to enforce the blockade.

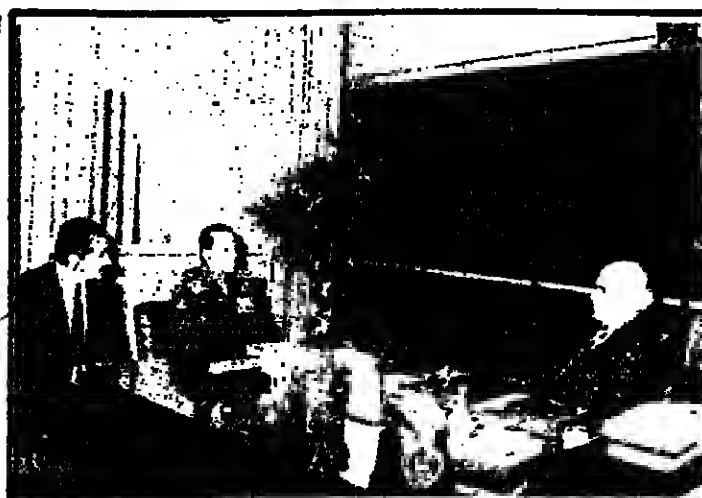
Leftist and pro-Syrian parties and militias described the military blockade as a "declaration of war that will only bring destruction and more bloodshed."

"All militias are on maximum alert," said a PSP commander. "Any shell that hits our areas

will be met with severely."

The blockade declared by the PSP covered the Christian enclave extending north from Beirut and included Jounieh, where ferries to Cyprus provide the rightists with their only direct link to the outside world. A spokesman for the "Lebanese Forces" said Jounieh remained open.

The PSP could enforce the blockade with artillery but would risk retaliatory shelling from the army. It has some small patrol boats but they were bottled up by the military blockade.



KING VISITS GHQ: His Majesty King Hussein, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, on Saturday visited the Army General Headquarters in Amman and met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. Later, he met with a group of senior officers at the general command and was briefed on Armed Forces training programmes. The meetings were attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem. Among those welcoming the King upon his arrival at the Army Headquarters were Lieutenant-General Daoud Hanania, director of the Armed Forces Royal Medical Services, the Inspector general of the Armed Forces and the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force (Petra photo).

Tawjihi exams underway

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nearly 51,780 students in the third secondary class at schools in the East Bank of Jordan on Saturday began a 10-day tawjihi (secondary school certificate) examination session.

The students, from private and public schools, are taking the examination in seven different streams: scientific, literary, commercial, agricultural, hotel management, industrial and nursing.

The Ministry of Education, which organises the examination, has provided 729 halls and a sufficient number of teachers to supervise the process. According to the ministry sources, one more hall for the examination has been set up in Tunis, where nearly 33 local students are taking the Jordanian tawjihi.

In addition to this mid-year exam, the same students will be sitting for an end-of-year examination in early June, covering subjects studied during the second school term.



Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi on Saturday inspects a tawjihi examination hall in Amman (Petra photo).

8-member committee meets today

(Continued from page 1)

Social Council in February. Dr. Hoss said.

On the second day of his stay in Jordan, Dr. Hoss was received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Mr. Rifai and Dr. Hoss reviewed Arab affairs and Jordanian-Lebanese relations as well as the agenda for today's meeting.

Arab leaders pledged to look at ways to help Lebanon overcome its 12-year-old civil war but made no specific commitments.

Palestinians observe protest

(Continued from page 1)

Shamir, who heads the right-wing Likud Bloc, also sharply criticised what he called the "intervention of certain circles in the U.S. government and the American public, as to the means Israel is taking to defend itself... from a new war against its security and peace."

Last week, both Shamir and the defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin of the Labour Party, rejected a U.S. State Department request not to expel Palestinians, insisting Israel would make its decisions independently.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted as saying on Friday the PLO was determined to step up anti-Israeli protests in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Arafat, addressing a military parade of PLO forces in Iraq, hinted that weapons might be used in future battles with Israeli troops in the occupied territories.

"If we have not yet used weapons during the uprising in the occupied land, the Palestinian leadership is closely watching the situation and will adopt adequate steps which will ensure the escalation of the confrontation with the Zionist occupation," he said.

Mr. Arafat said the "great popular uprising... will grow bigger in the shape of consecutive waves which the enemy, despite all the terror and repression, will not be able to extinguish."

In an interview with Italian Television broadcast Friday, Mr. Arafat said: "The desire of the international community and the Palestinian people is to allow the Palestinians the right to build their own independent state."

Mr. Arafat thanked Pope John Paul for appointing a Palestinian, Father Michel Sabbah, as Latin (Roman Catholic) patriarch of Jerusalem. Father Sabbah will be consecrated at the Vatican next week as the first Arab to hold the post.

"I would like to thank His Holiness," Mr. Arafat said. "His decision undoubtedly has a moral and spiritual significance. It is a noble act demonstrating great consideration for the Palestinian people."

In Israel, the Labour Party of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres reiterated its rejection of peace talks with Mr. Arafat.

The French weekly Le Nouvel observateur quoted Mr. Arafat as saying this week he was ready to talk to a dozen Labour members, including parliamentarian Ariele Hess, who wrote to him to outline the creation of an Israeli-Palestinian confederation.

Uzi Baram, general secretary of Israel's Labour Party, told Israel Radio Ariele did not have the authority of anyone to write the letter.

"The confederation is not a crazy idea," he said. "It could coincide with the stand of the Labour Party. But, first of all, meeting with Arafat goes against the policy of the Labour Party."

APC reports 1987 output of 1.203m tonnes

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Potash Company (APC) produced 1.203 million tonnes of potash from the Dead Sea in the past year, thus exceeding the 1.2 million-tonne mark fixed by the company's management at the outset of 1987, according to Ibrahim Al Halameh, APC production manager.

He said that 1987 production registered a six per cent increase over the previous year's output. Mr. Halameh added that all the potash was exported via Aqaba port.

On production during 1988, Mr. Halameh said that he expects an increase of 8.2 per cent over this year's figure.

APC Managing Director Ali Nsour was quoted earlier this year as saying that the company aims to produce 1.8 million tonnes of potash by 1993.

The APC plant near the southern tip of the Dead Sea uses solar evaporation and other complex processes to harvest potash from the mineral-rich Dead Sea.

Jordan holds a 52-per-cent stake in the pan-Arab company. The other shareholders are Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Kuwait.

The growth in production followed an investment programme earlier this year which aimed at increasing output in two stages, ending in 1993, according to Mr. Nsour.

Last year's production made Jordan the seventh largest producer of potash and followed a period of losses incurred by the company, which by the end of 1985, totalled JD 30 million. Mr. Nsour blamed a weak dollar, market glut, poor demand and depressed world prices for the company's previous losses.

Parliament endorses draft law extending JDEC concession

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Parliament's endorsement of a recent government decision to award the Jerusalem District Electricity Company (JDEC) a new 60-year concession was described by lawmakers as a necessary step to maintain the company's Arab ownership and to circumvent a possible Israeli takeover of the company.

Had Jordan not taken such a measure, which became effective on Jan. 1, 1988, "the concession and the rights of the company and its legal status (guaranteed by international law) would have been lost," Jerusalem Deputy Fouad Farraj told the Jordan Times.

During two separate sessions on Thursday, the Upper House (Senate) and Lower House of Parliament unanimously approved the draft law on JDEC's concession extension agreement.

The Cabinet took the decision on renewing the concession 12 days ago. The previous 60-year concession expired on Dec. 31, 1987.

The endorsement by both Parliament and the government also came in the wake of an Israeli Knesset (parliament) bill to issue JDEC a new concession for only 12 years, provided it reduced its operations to exclude Jewish settlements and army bases.

In another development, the Israeli authorities were taking steps towards imposing a de facto liquidation of the financially-troubled company. Last month, Israel disconnected 30,000 of the JDEC's Jewish subscribers and connected them to power grids of the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC).

Further forced disconnections of JDEC's Jewish subscribers by

the IEC are expected sometime this month.

Because the Arab-owned company does not recognise Israel as the legitimate body entitled to reduce or remove its concession, the Jordanian government took the decision of renewing the contract to avert a possible Israeli takeover and to consolidate the company's legal status and ownership.

Analysts say that by taking this measure, the government was facilitating the process of taking the issue to The Hague-based International Court of Justice. The renewal of the concession gives Jordan a legal position to pursue a possible Israeli takeover of JDEC in international courts.

The Jordanian government maintains that despite Israel's illegal reduction of the company's concession area, the original agreement between the government and the JDEC remained intact, in addition to the new extension agreement signed last week between the company and the Ministry of Energy here.

Echoing similar remarks made by other legislators, Jerusalem Deputy Nicola Akel praised Jordan's decision to extend the JDEC's concession period. Mr. Akel, who was elected to the Lower House last year, described the Cabinet's decision as "a practice by the legitimate national au-

thority... a national need... and a wise political step."

Mr. Akel said the company's concession area, which covers an area with a radius of 20 kilometres around the site of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, "is an integral part of Jordan."

Despite the fact that Jordan is empowered to grant JDEC the concession in accordance with international law, de jure, Mr. Farraj said he expected the Israeli government would "undoubtedly resist" the Kingdom's step to extend the company's concession period. "The Israeli authorities' resistance to the step would be based on the assumption that they are the de facto rulers there," he said.

"Hence, we have to be cautious enough — even if the circumstances compelled us to sue the Israelis at the International Court of Justice — to reassert our legitimate sovereign rights," Mr. Farraj concluded.

Although a number of deputies urged the government to adopt measures to support the financially and technically-troubled company, parliamentary sources have ruled out a continuation of government subsidies for the company. The government, according to the sources, views the financial backing of the company after the concession reduction as, by extension, a support of the Israeli economy.

According to press reports, the company — the single largest Arab employer in the occupied territories — buys 90 per cent of its power from the state-owned IEC. JDEC is forced to buy its power from the Israeli company because the Israeli authorities did not allow it to obtain power from its own generators, the sources indicated.

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Special issue No. 358

Drawing of Jan. 2, 1988

Winning Tickets

Holder of ticket No. **95310**
Wins JD 50,000

Holder of ticket No. **62177**
Wins JD 20,000

Holder of ticket No. **27689**
Wins JD 10,000

Holder of ticket No. **26988**
Wins JD 5,000

Holder of ticket No. **58563**
Wins JD 4,000

Holder of ticket No. **32020**
Wins JD 3,000

Holder of ticket No. **38234**
Wins JD 2,000

Holder of ticket No. **79151**
Wins JD 1,000

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 10,000 each wins JD 1,000
95311 95320 95410 96310 05310
95319 95300 95210 94310 85310

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 5,000 each wins JD 500
62178 62187 62277 63177 72177
62176 62167 62077 61177 52177

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 4,000 each wins JD 400
27680 27699 27789 28689 37689
27688 27679 27589 26689 17689

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 3,000 each wins JD 300
26989 26998 26088 27988 36988
26997 26978 26888 25988 16988

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 2,000 each wins JD 200
58564 58573 58663 59563 68563
58562 58553 58463 57563 48563

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 1,000 each wins JD 100
32021 32030 32120 33020 42020
32029 32010 32920 31020 22020

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 600 each wins JD 60
38235 38244 38334 39234 48234
38233 38224 38134 37234 28234

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 400 each wins JD 40
79152 79161 79251 70151 89151
79150 79141 79051 78151 69151

Ticket numbers **01428 00118 34090 96455 53665** win JD 600 each

Ticket numbers **94975 72519 59808 89916 31723** win JD 400 each

TICKETS ENDING WITH

6773 7850 8541 0045 7197 Win JD 100 each

212 448 907 976 693 Win JD 20 each

1477 6022 5167 8564 5142 Win JD 50 each

557 376 153 537 471 Win JD 10 each

5,000 ticket ending with **5** Win JD 5 each

COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

Fifty covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in **011 978 196 101 700** Win JD 30

Winners of the grand prizes in the ordinary issue number 357 of Dec. 17, 1987

Samira Saliba Employee — Amman Half first JD 10,000	Adel Sandouka Accountant — Amman Half first JD 10,000	Hassan Owada Driver — Balqa Full second JD 5,000	Mohammad Fakhr Lawyer — Amman Half third JD 1,250	Mohammad Ghannam Calligrapher — Amman Half third JD 1,250	Ahmad Al Haj Hassan Child — Amman Half fourth JD 1,000	Samir Salib Worker — Amman Half fifth JD 500

Next Draw takes place on **January 17, 1988**

First eight biggest prizes are issued from GUVS headquarters

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الجزيرة الأردنية: جريدة سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. تأسست 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Saturday's

Al Ra'i: Peres' cheap ploy

ISRAELI Foreign Minister Shimon Peres started the New Year by putting forward a suspect proposal which makes Israel's stand more adamant with regards to the situation in the Middle East. He said that Israel ought to enter into the peace process with Jordan without the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and through an international conference whose resolutions should not be hindering, a conference which should lead to direct negotiations between the two sides. He said the other alternative is to enter into peace negotiations with the PLO totally excluding Jordan from the peace process. By this statement Mr. Peres wants to say that Israel does not want the peace process to start at all, and at the same time threatens to exclude Jordan from any negotiations leading to peace if Jordan continues to call for PLO participation in the peace process.

The statement includes a temptation to the PLO to exclude Jordan and overlook its participation in any future peace talks, and that will be the price for accepting the PLO as a partner in the negotiations. What Israel hopes to achieve is to draw a wedge between Jordan and the PLO in an attempt to exclude one partner from the peace process and create a problem out of this situation, claiming that the peace process is being held up due to Jordanian-PLO disputes. Peres' proposal is a cheap ploy, and one of those that Jordan has often exposed to the world because Jordan does not accept any threats or blackmail and insists on PLO participation for a durable peace.

Al Dustour: Exposing Israel's lies

AS the uprising against Israeli occupation rule continues, the Israeli authorities find themselves forced to enforce their military will by even more ferocious methods and a stronger iron fist. The stones thrown by the Arab demonstrators on Israeli forces made the authorities mass large numbers of troops, thus renewing a process of occupation which took place 20 years ago. Israeli leaders realise the implications behind this situation and the consequences of involving thousands of troops to put down an uprising, seen as an all-out revolt in the face of the occupation. They also realise that arbitrary measures and barbaric practices against the Arab population which are being condemned by world nations are exposing the Israeli lies about democratic rule in Israel and the ugly face of occupation. As a result of its practices which reminds us of the atrocities committed by the white racist regime in South Africa, Israel finds itself in total isolation from the rest of the international community, and at the same time embroiled in internal disputes as to the best means of quelling unrest in the occupied Arab territory. The Israeli leaders are trying to impose their will on the Arab population whose resistance demonstrates the will of the Arab nation, to seek freedom and self determination for the Palestinian people. World-wide condemnation of Israel's atrocities and repressive actions serves as a means for enhancing the political struggle of the Arabs to end Israel's occupation of their land in Palestine.

Sawt Al Shaab: Boosting Arab economic ties

A meeting by the eight member pan-Arab economic committee due to open in Amman Sunday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan marks a turning point in inter-Arab economic relations. This historic meeting aimed at handling economic issues plaguing the Arab World is considered as one of the constructive offshoots of the Amman summit meeting which enabled the Arabs to reach agreement and consensus.

This committee will of course deal with the condition of various Arab League organisations and will propose solutions and remedy many of their ills. These organisations have been encountering mounting difficulties that reflected the weak Arab situation over the past years. But after the Amman summit, life is being breathed again into these organisations to reflect a positive inter-Arab cooperation and coordination.

The meeting which is a translation of the positive outcome of the Amman summit is being sponsored by Crown Prince Hassan who has given most of his attention to bolster Arab economy through the Arab League's various organisations. The eight member committee grouping Arab ministers of finance and economy is capable of implementing constructive resolutions emanating from the summit, and is bound to give further impetus to pan-Arab economic action.

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Unity and cohesion

THE Arab people of Palestine under Israeli rule chose to start the new year with more resistance activity against the Israeli occupation, a commitment they honoured and continue to honour until their freedom is achieved. The Arab people of Palestine have pledged to maintain their struggle; and through their stepped up activity, they have told the whole world in general and the Arab nation in particular that they are determined to regain their rights and their land, and build the true peace they aspire. Since the Arab summit meeting in Amman paved the way for collective Arab action against the Israelis, the Palestinians are now leading the way for the Arabs and are displaying a determined stand in their just struggle. With the start of the new year, we look forward to a real and serious pan-Arab action in this direction, and at the same time, we look to the achievement of more construction, more democracy and cohesion among the members of the same Jordanian family. These are the basic principles in our society which King Hussein strives to strengthen.

Our Jordanian family receives the new year with hope and determination for more cohesion and diligent work noting with pride King Hussein's endeavours to bolster solidarity among Arab countries and strengthening the internal front at the same time. There is no alternative to unity and cohesion in our struggle to protect our gains and to regain our lost land and rights.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

External factors influence Jordanian economy

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

SINCE 1982, the Jordanian economy steadily lost steam and appeared to sink into a long recession. Several factors were responsible for this setback. The war between Iraq and Iran seemed to protract indefinitely, the Israelis invaded Lebanon and occupied Beirut, oil prices took a nosedive and the Arab Gulf states dipped into deep recession and Arab financial aid to the treasury declined. Labour markets in the Gulf dried up and demand on Jordanian exports plummeted.

Many observers thought that the Jordanian economy would not be able to stand all these blows directed simultaneously to the treasury, labour market, and exports. However, the Jordanian economy proved to be more resilient and able to adjust and absorb the shock than analysts thought. The country and the people had accumulated reserves which helped the Kingdom withstand the drop and overcome difficult times. The government did not shrink. The lower revenues were compensated by more external and internal borrowing, thus public expenditure continued at the same level or even higher. No massive return of Jordanian expatriates took place as was feared. On the other hand most basic infrastructure facilities were already in place, including transport facilities, communication, hotels, roads, dams, electricity and water etc. In general, the decline in the volume of new investments and

capital formation was not all that painful. In a way, it was even useful, as so much investments were made which need consolidation and absorption more than additions.

All this does not mean that we don't have problems. It only means that the problems are not fatal, and can be contained and brought under control, provided we adopt the appropriate policies and demonstrate our will to survive and take whatever sacrifices that it may take.

The problems did not go away all together: Foreign currency reserves declined but did not dry up. The Jordanian dinar is still strong and perhaps stronger than warranted. External debt grew rapidly but Jordan is still able to honour its financial commitments and did not ask for rescheduling. Unemployment increased but did not lead to social disturbances. Commercial deficit is still there but the gap is now much smaller due to a substantial drop in imports, thanks to recession and industrial policy.

The future is of course far from certain, due to many unknowns; for example when the Gulf war will come to an end and on what basis? Will Lebanon restore its integrity, assert its sovereignty and start reconstruction soon? Will the price of oil rise or fall? Will the world experience an economic recession as the financial market

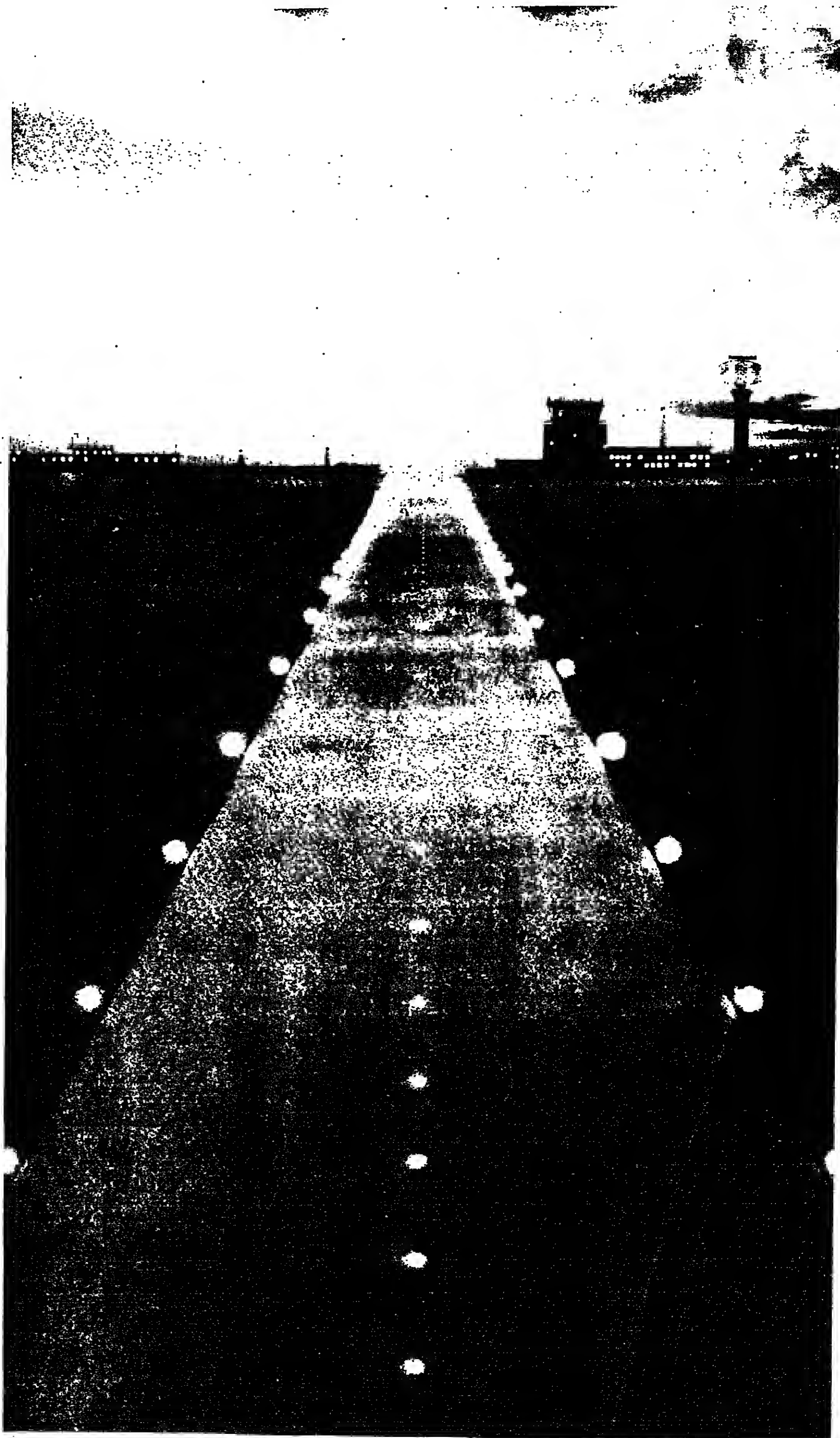
crash of 1987 suggested? Will protectionism and commercial war break out among industrial giants which will crush Third World countries? Will the prices of commodities such as phosphate, potash, and fertilisers improve or continue to be depressed? Will the sought-for international peace conference convene to work out a peaceful and just solution to the Middle East problem?

No doubt, the answers to these and other basic questions determine to a large extent the future of the Jordanian economy.

All these factors are obviously not controllable, but we can control our own policies of facing up to these challenges. These policies are more important and decisive than any single external factor that has impact on the Jordanian economy.

The so many unknowns that surround Jordan and can affect its future one way or another are responsible for the waves of optimism and pessimism that prevail from time to time, and from one analyst to another in accordance with his perception of the outcome of these unknowns.

Of course, the Jordanian people has sufficient devotion, intelligence, knowledge, competence, and leadership that qualify the country to overcome challenges and face the worse of circumstances. Therefore, we can have a conditional optimism.



THE
ONLY
WAY TO
ARRIVE
IN 1988.

CLUB
WORLD

British Airways new Business Class arrives today with a new service to help you arrive ready to do business.

On Club Europe, we've introduced 'Seamless Service'. It begins on the ground with Express check-ins at Heathrow Terminal 1. Now, instead of wasting time in queues you and your hand-baggage can board without delay.

On board, we've taken out seats on over 35% of our European fleet from London so you'll have more space to yourself. And with the first flight of the day from London to 30 continental cities you'll be landing fresh and ready for the day.

Meanwhile, on Club World, we're fighting long haul fatigue with a battery of new products and services designed to help you arrive refreshed.

We've introduced 'Slumber Seats', ergonomically designed to relax and support your entire body so you can stretch out over the long stretches.

You will be soothed by steaming hot towels, relaxed by premium beverages, delighted by dinner served regally on Royal Doulton bone china, and indulged by our award-winning staff.

As your destination nears, you'll be ready with our refresher kit. Inside you'll find everything to help you arrive looking your best.

You'll feel on top of the world, even if you've just flown across most of it.

CLUB
EUROPE

BRITISH AIRWAYS
The world's favourite airline.

الجزيرة الأردنية

Modern function of Azraq mirrors the area's role through centuries

Following article is the seventh in a series in which the writer explores the ancient Umayyad castles and palaces in Jordan.

Text and Photos
By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

THE EASTERN terminus of the highway from Amman/Sahab is the oasis settlement of Azraq, today — as in antiquity — a key junction with other converging roads from Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria. It is 100 kilometres from Amman, and can be reached on the road from Sahab, or on the road from Zerga, past Qasr el-Hallabat. Like many other sites in Jordan, its modern role precisely mirrors its function, throughout several ancient periods.

Its importance was due to two key factors: its strategic location at the head of Wadi Sirhan, an ancient caravan route between the Arabian Peninsula and the lands of Syria and Jordan in the Fertile Crescent, and the immense, year-round pools of spring-fed fresh water — now sadly smaller and shallower than they were before the early 1980s, when the water started being pumped to Amman for domestic and industrial use.

Several substantial sites in the area with large quantities of flint tools indicate the Azraq region was inhabited in the Paleolithic (Stone Age) period, hundreds of thousands of years ago.

The black basalt fort at Azraq was probably first built in the late Roman period, around 292-306 A.D., according to an inscription mentioning the Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. It may be the Roman site of Dasianis. Due to the importance of its water resources, it was probably used almost continuously, with several reconstructions or remodelings, until the early years of this century. It has never been excavated, and its history is not very well known.

It may have been preceded by a Roman fort in the late 2nd century A.D., when the Romans controlled the area and patrolled it along a series of roads. Two Roman milestones with inscriptions dated to 198-211 A.D. were found at Azraq by the British scholar David Kennedy.

An inscription confirms the fort was rebuilt in 1237 under the Ayyubids, and it must have been used by the Byzantine, and the Umayyad, Abbasid and succeed-



General view of castle interior, with mosque in centre

ing Arab-Islamic inhabitants of the land. Pottery collected in the fort dates from the Iron Age, early and late Roman, early Byzantine, Umayyad, Ayyubid-Mamluke and Ottoman periods.

The 80 x 72 metre fort was one of a string of Roman defensive installations which protected this strategic area at the head of Wadi Sirhan. The thick walls included four projecting rectangular angle towers at the corners, and similar interval towers in all four walls.

The west wall interval tower is much bigger than the others, and may have served as an administrative centre, according to Dr. S. Thomas Parker, a specialist in the Roman Arabian frontier. Within it is a three-ton, single slab basalt door which still swings on its original stone hinges. Near the door are some of the well cut, large stone blocs from the Roman era.

Above the fort's main entrance which juts out of the south wall, is an Arabic inscription saying the fort was built (that is, rebuilt) in 1237 by the Ayyubid governor of the region, Azzeddin Aybak, half a century after the Ayyubid leader Salaheddin (Saladin) had ended the Crusader presence in Jerusalem and the lands east of the Jordan River.

The room directly above the entrance gatehouse was used by Colonel T.E. Lawrence (of Arabia) in 1916, when he and the Arab forces of Sherif Hussein Ibn Ali of Mecca (the great grandfather of King Hussein) led the Arab Revolt against Ottoman rule.

Two stories of rooms once ranged around the entire length of the walls, but little of the upper stories remains standing today.



The main entrance gate, surmounted by 12th Century Ayyubid inscription

Along the north wall of the fort are some well preserved stables, with feeder bins for the animals and a series of fine stone arches which supported the roof.

The mosque near the centre of the courtyard was probably built in the Ayyubid period, with its mihrab (prayer niche) flanked by two engaged columns, and four roof-supporting arches, some standing on short pillar-pedestals. East of the mosque is the fort's water well, with steps leading into it.

Three kilometres south of the fort (in the modern village of Azraq Shisban, at the junction of

the road from Amman) are Azraq's ancient water pools, built of massive basalt blocs. Segments of the pool wall and its semi-circular buttresses can be seen opposite the entrance gate to the modern water pumping station. The wall can be followed for some 50 metres to the west, where it turns a corner, some of its original sluice gates are still visible. Walls with small rounded towers related to the pools have been traced for at least three kilometres to the east, though their precise function remains unclear.

There are four sleeping facil-

ties at Azraq for those who might wish to spend the night there while exploring the desert castles region: the government-owned Azraq Resthouse with its large outdoor swimming pool, the privately owned Sayad (hunter) Hotel and the Zu'bi Hotel, and the lodge of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.

Qasr 'Ain es-Sil

This is a small Umayyad farmhouse with an adjoining bath house, located just 1.75 kilometres north-east of Azraq castle, and easily reached via the road north of the castle. It is also known as Qasr 'Ain es-Sol. Some scholars believe it was a Roman firtlet or farmhouse that was rebuilt in the Umayyad period, though the Department of Antiquities excavations in 1984 produced only Umayyad pottery, and no evidence of modifications to the structure, suggesting it was first built in the Umayyad period.

The main qasr is an irregular structure measuring just over 17 metres square, built of basalt blocks directly on bedrock, without foundations. A narrow entrance in the east wall leads into a passageway which in turn gives onto a central courtyard surrounded by seven rooms.

A room projecting from the northeast corner of the building contains two clay tababeen (bread ovens), and there are the remains of two olive presses in the qasr. The press in the central room along the north wall consists of a circular receptacle made of wedge-shaped basalt slabs, in which a thick basalt wheel with a square hole in its centre revolved around a re-used early 3rd century Roman milestone. Another press in the north-western room has an oval basalt stone terminating in squarish holes to receive wooden bars.

The bath house against the west wall of the building was less grandiose than the 'Amra or Hamam es-Serah baths. It consisted of at least three rooms lined up on a north-south axis, the cold room (frigidarium) and two hot rooms (caldaria). There is some evidence to indicate that there was probably a changing room (apodyterium) at the entrance, at the south end of the baths.

The walls and floors of the cold room were all plastered, and the floors of the two hot rooms were raised on hypocausts of square baked bricks and basalt slabs. The bath house also still shows



The stables, along the north wall of the castle



The single-slab basalt stone door on its original hinges

the remains of ceramic pipes used to form vertical flues, several water tanks and basins, interior benches and plastered drains.

The faint remains of several other rooms can still be seen east of the qasr, near a 2.2-metre-diameter stone-lined well south-east of the qasr. Along with the olive presses, the excavations and clearance work in 1984 produced evidence of agricultural activity within the main building in the form of plain, thick pottery sherds from agricultural storage vessels. The dig revealed only Umayyad pottery, a lamp and a silver seal ring with an Arabic inscription which reads "God is the helper of the compassionate."



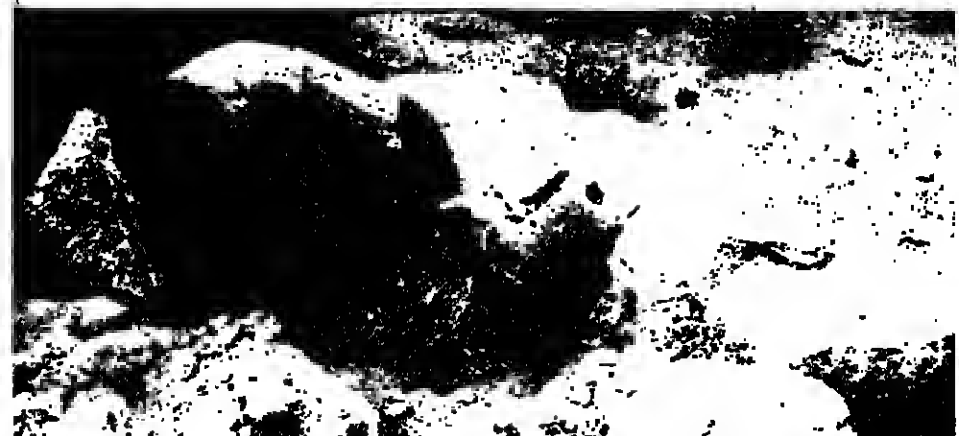
Some of the Greek-language, Roman period inscriptions found within the castle



General view into the Umayyad farmstead at 'Ain es-Sil



The small baths (with patches of white wall and floor plaster still visible), adjacent to the farmstead whose basalt walls are seen at right of photo.



Dr. Ghazi Bisheh of the Jordanian Department of Antiquities points out a Greek inscription on a Roman period milestone, which was re-used as the pivot for an olive press in the Umayyad period farmstead. On the ground behind Dr. Bisheh is the round basalt grinding stone with a square hole in its centre, which formed part of the press

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sun. — Jan. 3, 1988

8:30 Farrington of the F.O.

Omnibus Hemingway (Documentary)

The ultimate "action man" of literature, a legend in 20th-century letters, a Nobel Prize winner, Ernest Hemingway comes in for fresh scrutiny in this (four-part) omnibus special.

10:20 Secret Army

The series shows the several methods the English used to use in resistance during the German occupation of France during World War II, and the several counter methods used by the German occupiers in searching for the people involved in such resistance.

Mon. — Jan. 4, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

The Ladies' and Men's wear departments of Grace Brothers pulsate with activity in a new series of this very popular comedy. Mrs. Slocombe (Mollie Sugden), Mr. Humphries (John Inman) and

Captain Peacock (Frank Thornton) lead the cast of the tireless workers.

9:10 Moonlighting

10:20 Feature Film

Tue. — Jan. 5, 1988

8:30 Standby ... Lights! Camera! Action!

Host Leonard Nimoy takes viewers of all ages behind the scenes to see how movies are made, and introduces the people who make movies possible. Each show reveals the "secrets" of making some of your favourite films.

9:30 Executive Stress

In the second series of the highly popular situation comedy, Peter Bowles renews his 'To the Manor Born' partnership with Penelope Keith as he takes over the role of Donald Fairchild.

Penelope Keith returns as the other half of the husband and wife team working for a publishing company with a "no married couples" rule. As the two try to keep their marriage a secret, and cope with the stresses of living and working together, it's no wonder they're suffering from

another bout of Executive Stress.

10:20 The Equalizer

11:10 Three's Company

Wed. — Jan. 6, 1988

8:30 Charles In Charge

9:00 Well Being (Documentary)

9:35 Alfred Hitchcock

10:20 Roses Are For The Rich

Thu. — Jan. 7, 1988

8:30 Kate & Allie

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film

Fri. — Jan. 8, 1988

8:30 Nothing is Easy

9:10 Magnum

10:20 Falcon Crest

11:10 Dr. At Large

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30-Midnight

Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳

MANDARIN

Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.

Chinese Flaming pot is available

Take away available

Open daily 12:00-15:30

18:00-23:30

Wadi Sagra Road - near Traffic Bridge

Amman, Jordan

Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30-Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TAIWAN TOURISMO

Authentic Chinese Food

Korean Bar-B-Q

Charcoal Flaming Pot

Take-away service

Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akilah Hospital

Tel: 641093

EVERY DAY

PEOPLE WHO NEED MAINTENANCE SERVICES

CALL US!

Electrolux

P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

The Ideal Residence for Expatriates & Businessmen

DAROTEL داروتيل

Tel: 668193 - Telex 23888 DAROTL - Fax 602434

Shmeisani - Amman

Luxuriously furnished studio apartments To Satisfy Good Taste

HOTEL ★ APARTOTEL ★ RESTAURANT

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 664090, 660852

Tel: 22785 BESMCO JO

Call: Huvvabehco

P.O. Box 13647

AMMAN JORDAN

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

66717116-67014114

Ext. 223

Arsenal misses chance of snatching second slot

Celtic blanks Rangers, remains on top of the Scottish league

LONDON (Agencies) — Arsenal squandered a chance of gaining second place in the English soccer standings Saturday when it was held 0-0 at home by Queens Park Rangers as rain and high winds played havoc with the programme.

A waterlogged field at Derby County's baseball ground prevented Liverpool from extending its lead and the First Division game between Coventry City and Norwich City also was postponed for the same reason.

With second placed Nottingham Forest playing against defending champion Everton on Sunday, Arsenal had the chance to recapture second place.

But Arsenal and QPR fought out a goalless draw in muddy, windy conditions at Highbury while, across London, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur also tied 0-0 at Stamford Bridge.

Manchester United, consolidated its fourth position in the standings by winning 1-0 at Watford, which remained rooted to the bottom, while Wimbledon continued its improvement by moving up to fifth after a spectacular 5-2 victory at struggling Oxford United.

In other division one games,

Newcastle United and Sheffield Wednesday tied 2-2 and West Ham United and Luton Town drew 1-1.

Arsenal and QPR both had chances to win an untidy match at Highbury, but the conditions prevented any high quality play.

It was a similar picture at Stamford Bridge, where Chelsea generally dominated but was unable to get past Tottenham's steady defence.

Brian McClair scored Manchester United's winner shortly before half time at Watford — his 17th goal of the season.

Wimbledon tore Oxford's defence apart at the Manor ground, racing to a 3-0 lead through Carlton Fairweather, Lawrie Sanchez and John Fashanu in the first 27 minutes. Although Martin Foyle netted twice for Watford in the second half, Wimbledon's Alan Cork also scored twice to complete the rout.

Paul Goddard twice gave New-

castle United the lead against Sheffield Wednesday, which replied through Brian Marwood and Lee Chapman to snatch a point.

At West Ham, Paul Ince fired the home side ahead in the second half, only for Mark Stein to score Luton's leveller 14 minutes from time.

In Scotland, Premier Division leader Celtic downed champion Rangers 2-0 at Parkhead, both goals coming from Frank McAvennie. Rangers lost its England international goalkeeper, Chris Woods, during the second half with a rib injury that could keep him out of action for three weeks.

Two goals by Celtic striker Frank McAvennie crushed Scottish soccer champions Rangers 2-0 in the traditional New Year clash of the Glasgow arch-rivals on Saturday.

With runaway English League leaders Liverpool out of action because of a flooded pitch and second-placed Nottingham Forest not playing until Sunday, attention focused firmly on the top of the Scottish Premier League, with 61,000 fervent supporters crammed into Celtic's ground.



RAFTING ON THE YELLOW RIVER: The three-step Teapot Spout Falls at the Shanxi-Shaanxi border in China (above) is considered the most dangerous leg of a rafting journey on the Yellow River. The Henan Team of China gets over the 20-metre-high barrier by letting down the vessel with ropes. (Right) A member of the rafting team downsides with his vessel into the rapids (File photo)



New Year marked by Nuggets' NBA victory

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Adams thought it was just a chance to see some old friends, but Jay Vincent admitted he had personal reasons for wanting to beat the Washington Bullets.

Adams and Vincent, who were traded by Washington to Denver on Nov. 2, both made big contributions to the Nuggets' 124-109 NBA victory Friday night.

"I think I said at the time that they were giving up on me too soon," said Vincent, who was 15-for-20 from the field and matched his season high with 33 points. "To this day I still say it."

Vincent, who went to the Bullets in a trade with Dallas before the 1986-87 season, ruptured a tendon in his shooting hand in the first exhibition game and missed the first 30 games of last season.

He struggled while getting back into game condition.

In other NBA games, New York defeated the Los Angeles Clippers 115-96 and Portland edged Philadelphia 127-125.

Terry Catledge scored a season-high 27 points and Jeff Malone added 20 for the Bullets.

Knicks 115, Clippers 96

New York handed Los Angeles its fifth straight loss as Kenny Walker scored 25 points for the second straight game and Gerald Wilkins added 20. Mike Woodson led the Clippers with a season-high 36 points.

Clyde Drexler tied the score with two free throws, then stole the inbound pass at midcourt

Bowl games mark end of American football season

Florida State quarterback passes way into record book

NEW YORK (AP) — Florida State quarterback Danny McManus passed his way into the Fiesta Bowl record book Friday.

McManus completed 28 of 51 attempts for 375 yards and three touchdowns to lead the third-ranked Seminoles to a 31-28 victory over No. 5 Nebraska in Tempe, Arizona. The attempts and yardage were Fiesta Bowl records.

In other bowl games Friday, No. 13 Texas A-and-M beat No. 12 Notre Dame 35-10 in the Cotton and No. 14 Clemson downed No. 20 Penn State 35-10 in the Citrus.

On Thursday, No. 7 Louisiana State beat No. 9 South Carolina 30-13 in the Gator Bowl and Texas defeated No. 19 Pittsburgh 32-27 in the Bluebonnet Bowl.

In Pasadena, California, Lorenzo White ran for two touchdowns, and John Langeloh kicked a 36-yard field goal with 4:14 left as eighth-ranked Michigan State beat No. 16 Southern California 20-17 Friday to end the Pacific-10's domination of the Big Ten in the Rose Bowl.

Langeloh's field goal, his second of the fourth quarter, put the Spartans ahead again after Southern Cal tied the score 17-17 with 8:33 left. A 36-yard pass from Bobby McAllister to Andre Rison to the Southern Cal 35 set the stage for Langeloh's game-winning kick.

In New Orleans, Win Lyle's 30-yard field goal with one second remaining gave sixth-ranked Auburn a 16-16 tie with No. 4

Syracuse in the Sugar Bowl Friday, ending the Orangemen's hopes of a perfect season and a possible national championship. Jeff Burger completed 11 of 12 passes for 63 yards in the tying drive that got Auburn to the Syracuse 15, where the Tigers spent their final time out with four seconds remaining. They elected to go for the tie.

In Orlando, Florida, Rodney Williams passed for 214 yards and Tracy Johnson scored three touchdowns as Clemson handed Penn State its worst bowl defeat ever.

Williams' passing was complemented by a powerful rushing attack that produced 285 yards against the nation's 12th-ranked defence.

Penn State, the defending national champion, finished 8-4 this season. Clemson, the Atlantic Coast Conference champion, wound up 10-2.

Lorenzo White ran for two touchdowns and John Langeloh kicked a 36-yard field goal with 4:14 left to spark Michigan State, which ended the Big Ten's six-game losing streak in the Rose Bowl.

Langeloh's field goal put the Spartans ahead after Southern Cal had tied the score 17-17 with 8:33 left on a 22-yard pass from

Rodney Peete to Ken Henry. Michigan State finished with a 9-2-1 record. Southern Cal, which had won its last six Rose Bowls, ended up 8-4.

Fiesta Bowl
Florida State quarterback Danny McManus had a record-setting day in Tempe, Arizona.

McManus completed 28 of 51 attempts for 375 yards and three touchdowns. The attempts and yardage were Fiesta Bowl records, while the three touchdowns tied the bowl record.

The winning score was a 15-yard pass from McManus to wide receiver Ronald Lewis with 3:07 left. The touchdown capped a 97-yard, 11-play drive that started when Seminoles defensive tackle Eric Hayes recovered a Nebraska fumble at the Florida State 3.

Florida State finished its season with an 11-1 record, while Nebraska wound up 10-2.

Rally favourite develops engine problem

ALGIERS (R) — Britain's Andrew Cowan, leader of the Mitsubishi team in the 10th Paris-Dakar Rally and one of the favourites to win the three-week event, encountered problems during the non-competitive run through France.

Cowan's Mitsubishi Pajero began to misfire badly on the journey from Versailles, outside Paris, to the Mediterranean port of Sete, where the 602 cars, trucks and motorcycles embarked on four ships late on Friday to sail to Algiers.

The trouble cost the Scotsman a loss of power at the top end of his 350 bhp vehicle and could prove disastrous once the desert sections are underway. Cowan's own engine specialist, who flew to France especially to prevent such a problem occurring, pronounced the engine as running perfectly when tested at pre-rally checks in Reims.

FOR RENT FURNISHED AND UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

3 bedrooms, 3 baths, dining room, sitting room, full kitchen, balconies with beautiful view, 3 minutes walk to Shmeisani shopping centre. Very reasonable price. Please call Nasser at work tel. 823441/823442 or at home tel. 661868.

ANNOUNCEMENT

JIRPAC INTERNATIONAL REMOVALS & PACKING

(Alfred Sawalha & Sons)

Has moved to new premises in Sweifish commercial area. New tel. no. 824463 Tlx. no. 22179 ELE JO P.O. Box 925304

EXPATRIATE LEAVING

Household goods for sale (1-2 years old), including leather sofa set, JVC TV, Sharp VHS video, Philips gas cooker, lamps, curtains, etc.

Phone Marjorie at: 813655.

Shriver powers into Ariadne Open final

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Top-seeded Pam Shriver of the United States stormed to a 6-4, 6-0 victory over West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch on Saturday to advance to the final of the \$150,000 Ariadne Classic Women's Tennis Classic at the Milton Courts.

Shriver, who has made the final of the event for five of the past six years, will be looking for her second Ariadne title when she faces Czech re-en-ager Jana Novotna in Sunday's final.

Shriver, 25, has dropped only one set during the 56-draw tournament.

Novotna, 19, guaranteed herself the biggest paycheck of her career by downing American Patty Fendick 7-5, 6-1 in the other semifinal of the grass court Virginia Slims series event.

Shriver demolished third-seeded Kohde-Kilsch in less than an hour, serving six aces in the process.

Shriver has a 2-0 career record against rapidly improving Novotna, who was too powerful and consistent for two-time National Collegiate Athletic Association champion Fendick.

S. Australian Open

In Adelaide, Australia, defending champion Wally Masur of Australia had to struggle Friday night before defeating unseeded compatriot Roger Rasheed to advance to the semifinals of the \$93,400 South Australian Open tennis championships.

Masur, the top seed, downed Rasheed 6-1, 4-6, 6-4. Johan Anderson, a 16-year-old Swede now living in Australia, also moved into the semis with a 7-5, 7-3 triumph over American Joey Rive.

Anderson set up a semifinal meeting with third-seeded fellow Australian Mark Woodforde. Masur faces his Davis Cup

teammate John Fitzgerald in the other semifinal.

Woodforde beat West German Patrick Baur in a see-sawing three-set quarterfinal in the 32-draw Nabisco Grand Prix event, which is being played on synthetic courts.

The left-hander eventually prevailed 6-4, 1-6, 6-1.

Fitzgerald ousted American Bud Schultz 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 in another hard-fought struggle.

Pridham tumbles out in New Zealand

In Wellington, New Zealand, fourth-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union fought off a match point and went on to beat Canadian Chris Pridham 4-6, 6-3, 9-7 Saturday to advance to the final of the 115,000 New Zealand Open tennis championships.

Chesnokov won the three-hour struggle after Pridham held a match point in the 12th game of the final set.

Pridham later accused the Soviet of "quick serving" him on that crucial point.

"I wasn't ready for it," Pridham said. "I looked up and the ball was right there. If I'd have had more time, I think I could have played it. It's hard to take."

Chesnokov merely shrugged his shoulders and said "of course" when asked about the quick-serve incident.

Chesnokov earned a meeting with sixth-seeded Ramesh Krishnan of India, who took only 58 minutes to defeat second-seeded Kelly Evernden of New Zealand, the defending champion, 6-3, 6-1.

Krishnan completely dominated Evernden, who went into the match complaining of a sore right forearm.

The injury clearly hampered Evernden, whose usually powerful serve was rarely in evidence. The final will be played Sunday.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Kuwait leads Olympic qualifying group

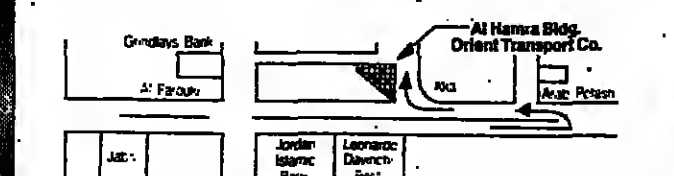
KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait and Qatar drew 0-0 on Friday in a Western Asia Group qualifying soccer match for this year's Seoul Olympic Games before a crowd of 10,000. In Muscat, Saudi Arabia and Iraq in the same group tied 1-1 (halftime 0-0) before 2,000 spectators.

Australian jockey suspended for 40th time

SYDNEY, Australia (R) — Jockey Malcolm Johnston was suspended for the 40th time in his career after being found guilty of careless riding at Canterbury here on Saturday. Johnston had returned to riding two weeks ago after serving his 39th suspension.

WE HAVE MOVED

We are exclusively in this building to ensure privacy and efficiency.



ORIENT TRANSPORT CO. LTD.

Tel. No. 664128, 664129, 664130, 674131
Fax. No. 682541
Telex No. 21547
P.O. Box 1958, 926499

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

- 1 Female secretary: with good English-Arabic typing skills and ability to operate telex machine.
- 2 Female secretary: with good English-Arabic typing skills and fluent in Swedish (written and spoken).
- 3 Female secretary: with good English-Arabic typing skills and fluent in Yugoslavian language (written and spoken).
- 4 Salesman capable of handling marketing work and with vast experience in marketing air-conditioning and refrigerator equipment for international companies.

Applications can be sent to P.O. Box 9184, Amman, together with testimonials and qualifications.

All correspondence shall be addressed to:

H.E. Dr. M. Bani Hani
Acting President
Jordan Valley Authority
P.O. Box 2769
Telephone: 644525/
641473
Telex: 21053 JVA JO
21692 JVC JO

Dr. Eng. M. Bani Hani
Acting President

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

PERFORMANCES 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

BEVERLY HILLS COP II

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573

PERFORMANCES 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

LEGACY OF RAGE

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

PERFORMANCES 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

THE LADY & THE TIGER

Oman decries higher duties on date exports to New Delhi

MUSCAT (AP) — Omani officials have reacted angrily to increased customs duties on date exports to India, their biggest customer, the state-owned Oman Daily Observer reported Saturday.

The newspaper said India had increased customs duties on Omani dates to 110 per cent while reducing duties on dates from Pakistan and Iran. He did not say what the previous levies were.

"We feel very strongly about it. I hope New Delhi will reconsider its decision," Mr. Ahmad Ibn Abdul Nahi Maki, under secretary of commerce and industry, was quoted as saying.

"It is a small quantity, but it has a significant meaning when looked at in the spirit of centuries of friendship and cooperation between Oman and India."

Mr. Maki said he had expected a cut in fees following a recent trip to India.

"But instead of reducing the duty, they have increased it," he complained.

Dates are Oman's top agricultural export. The country sends about 2,300 tons of dates a year to India.

Chase to end Peru operations

LIMA (AP) — The government says Chase Manhattan Bank will shut down its operations in Peru, where banks have been hampered by the country's economic woes and bombings by leftist terrorists.

The announcement also came less than three months after Peru nationalised domestic banks and placed restrictions on foreign banking.

The Superintendency of Banks and Insurance cancelled, at Chase's request, the American bank's permit to operate in the country, said the announcement published Thursday in the government's official gazette.

Chase Manhattan spokesmen were not immediately available for comment and there was no word on when Chase will close its doors in Peru.

In a controversial move in October, the centre-left government of President Alan Garcia nationalised all Peruvian banks, insurance and finance companies.

The measure did not affect foreign banks but the government banned those institutions from doing business in U.S. dollars. Five foreign-owned banks remain in Peru. Those banks include the U.S. companies Citibank and Bank of America and the Bank of Tokyo, the Bank of London and South America Ltd. and Banco Central de Madrid.

According to the authoritative economic magazine The Andean Report, several of the remaining banks are cutting back on operations in the face of continuing business problems.

Brazilian inflation hits 366%

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil's inflation rate soared to a record 365.96 per cent in 1987, according to figures released last week, easily beating the previous high of 233 per cent of 1985 and more than six times last year's 58.60 per cent.

Prices exploded this year in Brazil, the developing world's biggest debtor, after the collapse of a price freeze which had artificially contained rises during most of 1986. In May, consumer prices rose a monthly record 23 per cent.

The figures show the biggest rises last year were 459 per cent in the cost of housing and 401 per cent in the cost of health and personal care.

In December, the consumer price index rose 14.14 per cent against 7.27 per cent in the same month of 1986.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Dec. 26, '87 and ending Wednesday, Dec. 30, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	3000	4083	1.360	1.400	1.000
Petra Bank	51800	118364	2.170	2.400	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	40603	76299	1.870	1.880	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	15265	25800	1.660	1.690	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	299549	368926	1.270	1.300	1.000
Housing Bank	1158	1965	1.700	1.690	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	26933	650034	21.750	25.250	5.000
Bank of Jordan	5919	100385	16.600	17.000	5.000
Arab Bank	1070	131230	122.000	121.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	147648	400412	2.550	2.700	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	19700	21685	1.100	1.100	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	50157	66378	1.810	1.800	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	744996	490870	0.650	0.600	1.000
National Financial Investments	2325	3818	1.680	1.530	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	5967	4285	0.720	0.710	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	379	6661	15.400	20.000	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	9952	66032	6.700	7.000	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	79	81	1.080	1.080	1.000
Jordan Insurance	8385	111701	13.650	14.500	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	2325	2258	0.980	1.020	1.000
Yarabook Insurance and Reinsurance	10250	11276	1.040	1.100	1.000
Yidy Land Insurance	200	344	1.170	1.250	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	1750	1217	0.700	0.720	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	924	850	0.910	0.920	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	3494	4935	1.410	1.430	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	3900	3665	1.010	1.100	1.000
Universal Insurance	5800	4792	0.850	0.840	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Izzah Insurance	4602	3732	0.770	0.890	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	50	68	1.350	1.350	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	5360	7228	1.630	1.600	1.000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	34398	258194	0.730	0.790	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	45317	19935	0.440	0.440	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance (Aqaroc)	25165	11314	0.450	0.440	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaroc)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipment	986	99	0.600	0.600	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeer	3191	979	0.800	0.800	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	16172	25308	1.560	1.560	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	550	1968	3.330	3.850	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Dairy	9236	9232	0.300	0.290	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	12512	26702	2.130	2.140	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	136170	149633	1.050	1.050	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	5978	14938	2.500	2.500	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inaj)	7030	9912	1.440	1.400	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	10388	53588	5.200	5.190	1.000
Aladdin Industries	44150	51142	1.140	1.140	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	93156	171894	1.850	1.830	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	2356	11552	4.760	4.900	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	3100	3346	1.070	1.090	1.000
Chemical Industries	13001	16063	1.230	1.270	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	50800	35813	0.680	0.700	1.000
Dar Al Daw' for Development and Investment	5889	8716	1.490	1.480	1.000
National Steel Industries	41183	114354	2.780	2.780	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	131530	197357	1.390	1.590	1.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	14882	111618	7.500	7.500	5.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	68150	10213	0.150	0.150	1.000
National Industries	12750	6388	0.500	0.520	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	4500	4365	0.970	0.970	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	980	734	0.710	0.790	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	5550	6774	1.220	1.200	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	400	352	0.800	0.880	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	15250	47070	3.180	3.050	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	25650	15903	0.610	0.620	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning and Leather	650	1300	2.050	2.000	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	353	5210	14.600	14.700	5.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	8425	7659	0.920	0.920	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	167552	164881	0.960	1.000	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	104415	309013	3.190	3.210	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	133596	140341	1.040	1.060	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	3200	2909	0.900	0.910	1.000
Grand total	3,650,100	4,719,377			

S. Arabia reports economic growth, better trade figures

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's non-oil economy grew in 1987 for the first time in three years and its trade surplus more than tripled, the ministry of finance and national economy said.

In a review of the economy after the kingdom's 1988 budget was unveiled last week, the ministry said better trade figures had not been won at the expense of cutting imports.

"This is a clear indication of the process of transformation from a completely oil-based economy to a more diversified one," it said in a report carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) overnight.

Gross domestic product, not taking into account the oil sector, rose by an inflation-adjusted 0.8 per cent in 1987 after falling 2.3

per cent in 1986 and 5.7 per cent in 1985.

The trade surplus rose to 14 billion riyals (\$3.7 billion) from four billion (\$1.05 billion) in 1986, with the value of non-oil exports rising by 25 per cent.

The kingdom has put increased emphasis on boosting agriculture, light industry and the mining sector. Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has been hard hit by declining oil prices and on Wednesday announced spending cuts of 17 per cent in 1988.

Economists say the new budget is the kingdom's most determined effort yet to bring its deficit under control and ease what has been a \$40 billion drain on reserves to bankroll the shortfall over the past four years.

The 1988 deficit should be cut by 32 per cent to 35.9 billion riyals (\$9.6 billion) and that will be mainly financed by borrowing — for the first time in 25 years.

The finance ministry said government bonds would provide a stable means of investing savings in a domestic market that would be shielded from fluctuations on international markets.

The ministry's review also said consumer prices fell by 1.4 per cent in 1987 after a decline of 3.1 per cent in 1986.

Iran pursues Turkish oil outlet

ANKARA (R) — Iran is negotiating with Turkey for a pipeline to carry its vital oil to the Black Sea, bypassing the perilous Gulf, oil industry sources said on Saturday.

The pipeline would emulate the strategy of Iraq, Iran's war enemy, but would pointedly avoid a Mediterranean outlet used by Baghdad and favoured by the Turks.

Exporting oil by pipeline would reduce Iran's reliance on shuttle tankers which have been repeatedly attacked by Iraq as they ferry oil from Kharg Island terminal in the northern Gulf to clients waiting in the safer southern Gulf.

Turkey borders both Iran and Iraq, its major oil suppliers, and has remained neutral in their seven-year-old war.

Both combatants rely heavily on earnings from oil sales to sustain their war machines.

Iran has responded to the Iraqi strikes on its shuttle tankers by hitting at ships using the Gulf exports of Iraq's Arab allies. The two sides damaged at least 178 merchant vessels in the Gulf last year.

The sources said a 1,400-kilometre pipeline from Iran's Khuzestan oilfields near the southern warfront to Trabzon on Turkey's Black Sea coast could be built in two years.

Final talks were likely to begin soon and delegates from the Turkish state-owned pipeline company Botas would visit Iran at the end of January.

The sources said Iran wanted a Black Sea outlet while Turkey was keen for one at Iskenderun Bay. In the northeastern Mediterranean, where Iraqi oil exports are already loaded.

Turkish industry sources said Tehran considered a Black Sea pipeline more secure. It would also be cheaper and take less time to lay than a 1,900-kilometre link to Dorytol on Iskenderun Bay.

Turkey and Iran agreed in mid-1986 on feasibility studies for oil and gas pipelines after they discussed an oil link to the bay with a projected capacity of one million barrels per day (b/d) at an estimated cost of \$4.3 billion.

The authoritative Arah Oil and Gas Directory for 1987 said such a pipeline would take four years to build, with Iran contributing \$2.5 billion and Turkey \$1.8 billion.

The sources gave no estimate for the cost of Khuzestan-Black Sea line.

Iran's current oil exports are estimated at 1.3 million b/d, down from its normal 1.8 million.

A market glut and import cuts by Japanese firms have added to Iran's selling problems.

The sources said Turkey favoured Dorytol, where a Turkish pipeline from the Batman refinery emerges, because jetties and facilities already there could be enlarged.

Dorytol is in sight of Yumurtalik, now Baghdad's main oil export terminal. Iraq's Gulf ports and a pipeline across Iran's ally Syria to the Mediterranean were closed early in the war.

The high-security Yumurtalik terminal is fed by two parallel pipelines, with a total capacity of 1.5 million b/d from Iraq's northern oil city of Kirkuk.

Western industry sources said that, apart from the risks of baying Iranian and Iraqi outlets close together, an Iranian pipeline to Dorytol would have to pass just north of the border with Iraq.

IRNA added: "He noted, however, that an Iranian delegation is to visit Tokyo in another two weeks after which, he said, details of the question would be known."

Last week, oil industry sources in Tokyo said Japanese buyers of Iranian crudes had responded to diplomatic pressure from the United States to cut imports.

Sri Lanka cuts hotel taxes

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka approved last week lower taxes, including reduced government levies, on hotels badly hit by ethnic unrest on the Indian Ocean island. A cabinet statement said ministers accepted a recommendation by a government-appointed committee that hotels pay \$170 annually as licensing fees to local authorities. Hotels have up to now paid one per cent of their turnover. Other reductions were in water and power taxes. Industry officials said tourism was the sector worst affected by a four-year-old guerrilla campaign to set up a separate state for the island's Tamil minority.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is a good time to consider the reliability of your home and career foundations, especially since it is Sunday and you have plenty of time to reflect. Have a pleasant day together with family members.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Any problems which crop up today can be handled easily, but be sure you use caution. You can make real progress tonight if you use charm.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20): If you study periodically, you can find some ways to solve current problems. Plan a business trip which can be quite beneficial.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): You'll have an opportunity to discuss property with a trusted expert. Listen carefully. Do something thoughtful for your mate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): If you are not sure how to handle a private difficulty, wait until this afternoon when a trusted partner can give you good advice.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Try to spend some quiet time by yourself thinking about how you can best improve your situation. Put aside small chores and please your mate.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): This afternoon would be a good time to get together with good friends. Please your mate more by getting along with his or her friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Be sure you keep your business interests separate from your home life. Don't neglect a close relative who is always on your side.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Treat a new acquaintance whose background is radically different from your own as you would anyone else, and all will work out well.

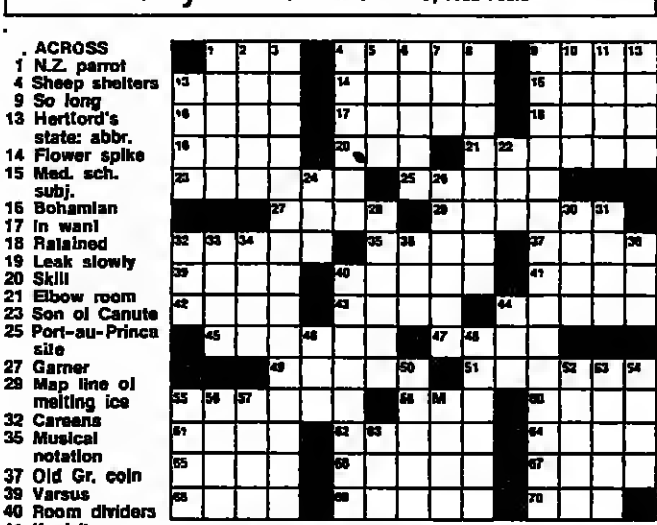
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): After handling your usual Sunday tasks, schedule your time and activities for the coming week. Find a way to improve your home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Be kind and thoughtful to a partner with whom you have some issue to resolve. If you go out tonight, take no risks while driving.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Try to change your diet somewhat, and get some exercise which will make you feel better. Enjoy the domestic scene with your mate.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): This is an ideal day to attend an affair with friends that your mate has been interested in. Don't do anything to damage your reputation.

THE Daily Crossword by Fred Toole



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. N.Z. parrot, 4. Sheep shelters, 9. So long, 13. Hertford's state, 14. Flower spike, 15. Med. sch., 16. Bohemian, 17. In want, 18. Rained, 19. Least slowly, 20. Skill, 21. Elbow room, 22. Son of Canute, 23. Port-au-Prince, 24. Garner, 25. Map line of melting ice, 26. Caravan, 27. Musical notation, 28. Old Gr. coin, 29. Varsus, 30. Room dividers, 31. Uncivil, 32. Lured, 33. Rugged walk, 34. Change, 35. Speechless, 36. Cut-rate event, 37. More sensible, 38. Trainers, 39. Existentialist, 40. Jean Paul, 41. Onager, 42. No. 2 man, 43. Ol' Marx, 44. South Philo, 45. Fitzgerald, 46. Wound mark, 47. T.S., 48. Allments, 49. Mistrust, 50. Coarse files, 51. Plaything, 52. Down, 53. Seoul site, 54. Go in, 55. Idea when in trouble, 56. Alberta's land, 57. Hib. measure, 58. Canines, 59. Terminate, 60. Artful, 61. Practitioners, 62. Uffmatum, 63. Phrase, 64. Once more, 65. Mulberry bark, 66. Cloth, 67. Lawyer, 68. 13 Singer Johnny, 69. 22 Whiff, 70. Band leader, 71. Brown, 72. Walkways, 73. Laud, 74. Adjoin, 75. Cipher, 76. Vegas, 77. Involved with, 78. Lunary, 79. BPOE member, 80. Gaelic sea, 81. God, 82. At any time, 83. Fat fiddle, 84. Old Eng. bird, 85. — green, 86. Health resorts, 87. Pie — mode, 88. Things of value, 89. Hindu queens, 90. Fat fiddle, 91. Old Eng. bird, 92. — green, 93.

Bangladesh opposition to boycott Feb. 28 polls

DHAKA, Bangladesh (Agencies) — The main opposition parties announced Saturday they will boycott the Feb. 28 parliamentary elections and will continue their campaign of demonstrations and strikes to oust President Hussain Muhammad Ershad.

The liaison committee representing 20 opposition parties issued a statement Saturday rejecting "with contempt the schedule for farcical election to the parliament."

Four people were injured in Dhaka on Friday when police used batons to break up a demonstration against the elections, said a witness speaking on condition of anonymity.

Gen. Ershad dissolved parliament on Dec. 6, nearly four weeks after the opposition launched its campaign against him. The election date for the 330-seat parliament was announced Friday.

The committee called the elections "a new conspiracy against the nation and the country." The statement also urged continuation of the strikes and demonstrations aimed at toppling the government.

The opposition has sponsored 18 days of general strikes since it

launched the anti-Ershad campaign on Nov. 10.

The 57-year-old Gen. Ershad has repeatedly rejected demands for his resignation and has appealed to the opposition to participate in parliamentary elections.

"There is no alternative to polls in changing the government," he said Friday.

Gen. Ershad took power in a bloodless coup in 1982. He won a presidential election in 1986, but the opposition contends the election was rigged.

The opposition says any new elections should be conducted by a neutral caretaker government committed to hold free and fair polls.

Gen. Ershad on Friday said his Jatiya Party would take part in the February elections and a new pro-government alliance of 23 small parties also announced it would participate.

None of the three parliaments

in Bangladesh's 16-year history has completed its scheduled five-year term. A military takeover has marked every change of government in the country, one of the poorest in the world.

Bangladesh's 105 million people earn a per capita income of \$150 annually.

Begum Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina, accompanied by senior party leaders, met for nearly an hour at Sheikh Hasina's home on Friday night after the election commission announced the election date, they told reporters.

The two leaders said in a joint statement they would frustrate a government plan to hold "a farcical election" boycotted by major opposition groups.

The leaders reiterated their stand that elections in Bangladesh would not be free and fair as long as President Ershad remained in office.

"He thinks he can again fool us and the whole world with his phony elections," Mrs. Khaleda, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party chief, said.

"We must prove that his bluff has been called and his days are numbered," she told a meeting of party workers on Saturday.

22 killed in Mozambique rebel ambush

LONDON (AP) — At least 22 people have been killed in Mozambique in an ambush on a train by guerrillas thought to belong to the right-wing Mozambican National Resistance, or Renamo, the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) reported Saturday.

The BBC said in a World Service radio news bulletin that the ambush occurred Thursday but that news of what happened had only just emerged.

It said the train was on its way to the capital Maputo with about 1,500 people on board and that survivors had described how it hit a mine at a point some 40 kilometres east of Mozambique's border with South Africa.

The BBC quoted the survivors as saying that the locomotive stayed on the track but that all five railroad cars were derailed.

It said the guerrillas then looted the train and abducted several passengers but that most of the passengers managed to escape into the bush.

The BBC recalled that the Mozambican government recently reported that its forces had captured a Renamo base from which the rebels had been attacking both road and rail transport.

It said that if Thursday's reported ambush and an earlier ambush on a bus travelling between Maputo and the border with Swaziland were, as assumed, the work of Renamo, the rebels would appear to be trying to show they are still active.

Renamo — which is the movement's Portuguese acronym — has been fighting a bloody 10-year bush war against Mozambique's Frelimo Party government.

Press reports have alleged that Renamo has continued to receive support from South Africa following the signing in 1984 of a bilateral non-aggression pact with the Mozambican government.

Renamo, reportedly set up after independence by the secret police of what was then white-minority ruled Rhodesia, has denied these reports. Rhodesia is now black-ruled Zimbabwe.

South Africa has also denied that it continues to support Renamo, whose hit-and-run attacks have centred on roads, railroads, bridges, power and water plants, factories, government buildings, farming communities and foreign workers.

The Maputo government came to power under the late President Samora Machel upon Mozambique's independence from Portugal in 1975, pledged to Marxist doctrines. But it has modified these in recent years in favour of an economic and political opening toward the West.

The government is now headed by President Joaquim Chissano. He was elected to the post by the Central Committee of Frelimo in November 1986 in succession to Mr. Machel, who died in an air crash 180 metres inside South African territory the previous month.

Pravda: No change in Soviet SDI position

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union denied on Saturday that it had dropped its opposition to the U.S. "Star Wars" programme during last month's superpower summit and said American officials had tried to distort Moscow's position.

The official Communist Party newspaper Pravda said "confused" U.S. officials had claimed Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made "radical concessions" at the summit and approved the missile defence programme, officially called the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

"Juggling with the facts was obvious, because there is no change in the Soviet attitude to the SDI programme and it was authoritatively stated by the Soviet side — it did not happen," the Pravda commentary said.

It charged Washington with "attempts to distort in its own way the results of the recent Soviet-American summit."

"By trying to impose on the country its interpretation of the results of the talks, the administration tried to break up expanding opposition to its plans for the militarisation of space," Pravda said.

The newspaper said U.S. National Security Adviser Gen.

Colin Powell was one official who had told journalists that the Soviet position had changed.

During the Dec. 7-10 summit in Washington, Mr. Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed a treaty to eliminate medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

Just before the summit, Mr. Gorbachev admitted in an interview with the U.S. television network NBC that the Soviet Union was engaged in basic research in areas covered by SDI.

He also said the Soviet Union was prepared to see the U.S. Star Wars programme proceed provided it was conducted within the limits of the anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty between the superpowers.

However, analysts noted that strict observance of the 1972 treaty would severely limit SDI deployment. In Washington, Mr. Gorbachev insisted on strict observance of the treaty as a condition for a strategic arms accord now under negotiation.

After the summit, Mr. Gorbachev made a speech on Soviet television in which he rejected suggestions in the West that he was softening his opposition to Star Wars.

Fire kills 5 in Wales

MERTHYR TYDFIL, Wales (AP) — Four young children and their father died trapped in their beds when a New Year's Day fire gutted their home in this South Wales mining town, police said.

Neighbours grabbed the children's mother, Yvonne Watkins, to stop her rushing back into the blazing two-storey home after she escaped in her nightclothes from a downstairs room.

She survived with a fifth child, Camille, 5, who was rescued by firemen and hospitalised in a serious condition.

"There was nothing we could do to get back inside the house," said neighbour Gwyneth Amos. "Yvonne was in a terrible state, screaming that the children

were inside with her husband." The row house was engulfed in a sheet of flames just before 8 a.m. (0800 GMT), Mrs. Amos said.

Firemen with breathing apparatus pulled the children and their father, Freddie Watkins, from upstairs bedrooms but attempts to revive them with oxygen failed.

The dead children were sisters aged six, three and two, and their two-month-old brother.

Divisional fire officer John Forest said the cause of the blaze was not immediately established, but it could have smouldered for some time in the downstairs front room.

Enrile becomes only Filipino senate opposition member

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile became the only opposition member of the Philippine Senate after the other opposition senator joined President Corason Aquino's ruling coalition Saturday.

Sen. Joseph Estrada's move to the Liberal Party, one of half a dozen parties under Mrs. Aquino's "People's Power" Coalition, had been rumoured for months.

"Since I am now alone, I will do all I can to keep the opposition alive in the senate," Mr. Enrile said in a radio interview.

Mr. Enrile and Mr. Estrada, a popular movie star, were the only candidates of the opposition

Grand Alliance for Democracy to survive the Aquino coalition's sweep of the 23-member senate in the May 11 congressional elections.

The coalition also won a huge majority in the 200-member house of representatives.

Mr. Estrada was sacked as mayor of the Manila suburb of San Juan after Mrs. Aquino came to power following the February 1986 "people's power" revolution that ousted Ferdinand Marcos.

Meanwhile at least 11 people were killed and 1,225 others injured as Manila welcomed the New Year with a frenzy of firecracker explosions, drinking sprees and drunken brawls, police and hospital authorities said Friday.

U.S. announces motor using superconductivity

ARGONNE, Illinois (AP) — The world's first electrical motor based on the properties of new superconducting ceramics is too small to be useful, but shows such motors are possible, says a scientist at the laboratory that developed the motor.

"The next step we're looking for is a design that would lead to a commercially practical motor... I would guess that's 10 years away," said Roger Poeppel, a ceramics specialist at the lab, the Argonne National Laboratory.

The lab is operated by the University of Chicago for the U.S. Department of Energy.

Superconductors are little-understood materials that transmit electricity without energy loss. Superconductivity occurs when materials are cooled to a very low temperature and molecular motion slows down.

If the process can be controlled and the right materials developed, superconductivity offers the promise of cheaper electrical power, faster and more efficient electronics, and powerful magnets with a range of uses, from levitating high-speed trains to building new atom smashers.

Scientists for decades have experimented with new materials and techniques to raise the temperature at which superconductivity occurs, so cheaper and easier-to-handle coolants could be used.

Until recently, the process could not occur until materials were chilled to more than 420 degrees below zero Fahrenheit (250 degrees below zero Celsius), Poeppel said, but new ceramic materials discovered last year reach superconductivity at about 290 degrees below zero Fahrenheit (178 degrees below zero Celsius).

Argonne's motor, called the Meissner motor, uses the new ceramic materials and is based on the Meissner effect, a term used to describe a property of superconductors: When a magnet comes near a superconductor, the superconductor repels it.

Soviets end jamming of BBC to Poland

LONDON (AP) — The Soviet Union on New Year's Day stopped jamming the British Broadcasting Corp.'s (BBC) service to Poland, the corporation announced.

The move, nearly a year after Moscow lifted jamming of the BBC's Russian-language service, meant that the internationally respected broadcaster can now be heard clearly throughout Eastern Europe for the first time since six years.

"We are delighted the only remaining jamming of the BBC in Europe has ended," said Peter Udell, BBC controller of European Services.

The service, which broadcasts for 26½ hours a week, has been

jammed since Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski imposed martial law in December 1981.

During the past few years only the BBC's shortwave broadcasts to Poland were jammed, and not the mediumwave. The BBC said, however, a "significant number" of its estimated eight million Polish listeners had been affected.

The end of the Polish jamming — which the BBC had traced to Soviet station at Kaliningrad, Tashkent and Svolensk — had been widely expected, but came unannounced.

BBC monitoring engineers based near Reading, west of London, learned of the let-up when they found Friday's first newscast to Poland, at 0500 GMT, going

out loud and clear, said BBC spokesman Robert Wilson. Subsequent programmes were also free of interference.

"It now means that the whole of Eastern Europe is unjammed for us," said Mr. Wilson.

The BBC's Russian service, with an estimated 15 million listeners, has been jammed for about half the time since it began broadcasting to the Soviet Union 41 years ago, the corporation said.

A U.S. diplomatic source in Warsaw said Voice of America (VOA) reception in Poland has improved in recent days.

"We've been watching the situation and it's been improving quite a bit," said the diplomat.

COLUMNS 768

Lange survives racing car crash

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange was badly shaken but unhurt on Saturday when the racing car he was driving collided with another car. Mr. Lange, an experienced licensed motor racing driver, was taking part in the first practice session for the first round of the Benson and Hedges International Motor Racing series at Manfield Race track. Palmerston North, about 145 kilometres north of Wellington. His bright red Ford Laser TX31 collided with a similar car driven by Andrew Maher as the pair came out of a hairpin bend. Mr. Lange's car took the full impact of the collision on the front left side, while Maher's car was badly damaged on the right front corner. Maher was unhurt. Mr. Lange, who walked away from the crash, was not available for comment. But Maher told reporters Mr. Lange seemed badly shaken by the incident. Maher said the pair had come out of the corner close together, and it was "just one of those racing incidents."

Thugs attack British rock star

LONDON (AP) — A gang attacked the lead singer of the Communards pop music group in a tavern and slashed his face with a broken beer glass, according to reports Saturday. London's Guy's Hospital said Jimmy Somerville was treated and released for facial slash wounds Friday, but did give further details. The Daily Mirror newspaper said Somerville was attacked while drinking with friends in a tavern in London's tough East End. According to the newspaper, the 5-foot-tall (1.5 metre-tall) Somerville refused the gang's demand for money and began punching at them. One of the attackers jammed a broken glass into Somerville's face and the gang fled when Somerville fell bleeding. The Communards' hits include Never Can Say Goodbye, Don't Leave Me This Way and You're My World.

Liechtenstein offers free transport

VADUZ, Liechtenstein (AP) — The principality of Liechtenstein, worried about mounting pollution on Friday became the first country in Europe to offer free public transportation in a move to discourage private commuting. During the yearlong trial period, buses circulating between the capital and the 10 other villages of Liechtenstein can be used free of charge. The 160-square kilometre on the upper Rhine, bordered by Switzerland and Austria, has no railroad. The decision was taken by parliament after surveys, taken regularly since 1983, indicated a steady increase in the share of diseased trees, blamed primarily on pollution. Among pine trees, the damage was up to 82 per cent, according to the latest survey published last week. Forests make up more than one third of Liechtenstein's total surface. Liechtenstein, one of the wealthiest countries in the world, has a total of almost 18,000 registered motor vehicles, including 14,000 cars, among the population of 26,500. In addition, it is crossed annually by hundreds of thousands of buses and tourist cars.

Malawi bans 'subversive' T-shirts

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP) — Malawi has outlawed T-shirts produced by an exiled opposition party and bearing the slogan "we are fighting for a real freedom," the Malawi News Agency said. The T-shirts are "subversive," said a government spokesman quoted by the semi-official agency. He warned that anyone found with the shirts "will be dealt with in the appropriate manner." The spokesman, who was not identified, did not say precisely what would happen to offenders. The T-shirts are sold by the Malawi Freedom Movement, or Mafreimo, in neighbouring countries. Mafreimo is one of three political movements banned from the south east African nation and operating from other capitals.

Portuguese casinos hit by strike

LISBON (R) — Roulette wheels stopped spinning in most of Portugal's casinos on Saturday as croupiers began a weekend strike in protest at government plans to tax all tips. Gambling was severely curtailed in the country's seven licensed gaming halls, including three on the Algarve tourist coast and the famous Estoril Casino near Lisbon, union and company sources said. The tax plan, to be applied to all service workers, would hit casino employees particularly hard as their tips are normally in gambling chips which must be registered when cashed.

Twin brother faces life alone

QUINCY, Massachusetts (AP) — For the first time in 80 years, John Fuller faces life without the identical twin brother who was almost constant companion. They shared a bedroom and a taste for the same clothes, meals and pranks. But Fuller says that except for "some of the littlest things that trip you up and make the tears roll," he has remained upbeat since his brother Buell died last week. He said optimism was a trait the twins also shared. Before Buell's death on Dec. 22, they were separated only twice in their lives: when John preceded Buell at birth by two minutes, and a second time, three decades later, when Buell went into the armed services for two years. The two never married and lived with their mother until she died 20 years ago. They slept in twin beds in the same bedroom, dressed in identical clothes every day and drove matching mini-vans. Each morning for breakfast they ate half a banana, 20 raisins, a glass of orange juice and a cup of coffee.

Tower of Pisa leans less

PISA, Italy (AP) — Pisa's leaning medieval tower shifted less in 1987 than in many previous years, and it will probably stay standing for a century, an expert who measured the incline has said. Giuseppe Toniolo, head of a group charged with the preservation of the monument, said that during the past year the tower leaned 0.70 millimetres (0.028 inches), the Italian News Agency AGI reported. The 55-metre (180-foot) tower completed between 1360 and 1370 leans an average of a millimetre a year, he said. In 1986, it tilted 1.26 millimetres (0.05 inches), causing concern. The tower leans about 16.8 feet off the vertical. Toniolo warned that if the tower continues to lean a millimetre more each year, it would topple over in 100-110 years.

Topless club covers up

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — The Condor Club, which gave the world topless shows, has exposed its last bare bosom. The club entered 1988 with its dancers wearing corsets and ruffled skirts — a return to the more demure shows of San Francisco's Barbary Coast nightlife of the 1850s. "Public tastes have changed," the club's owner, Tex Norton, said. Topless entertainment was born on June 19, 1964, when a Condor Club waitress named Carol Doda exchanged her drinks tray for a topless swimsuit. She soon became a star and the club became a San Francisco landmark and a pacesetter. In 1969, there were 27 topless cabarets on the Broadway night club strip of San Francisco. Now, only a handful remains. Even the Condor Club's 40-foot (12-metre) sign — a likeness of Doda with a flashing light on each breast — has been given a skirt and bodice. Doda herself stopped dancing at the club two years ago.

Ortega calls Reagan 'liar of the year'

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega on Friday called President Reagan "liar of the year" for 1987 and the number-one enemy of regional peace efforts.

"Reagan is the principal enemy and saboteur of peace in Central America. He cannot be trusted because he is a liar," Mr. Ortega said in a New Year's message.

In a reference to Time magazine's selection of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as its man of the year, Mr. Ortega said: "While U.S. newspapers chose

Gorbachev as man of the year, Reagan should be chosen as liar of the year."

Mr. Ortega also accused unnamed rightwing Nicaraguan politicians and journalists of receiving money from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). "They had better watch out, for they may fall under the wheels of revolutionary justice."

Aid Mr. Ortega, addressing the country's drastic economic crisis, said if the war against U.S.-backed contra rebels were

to end "in a short time, we would turn ourselves into the economically most-sound nation in Central America."

Mr. Ortega, whose Sandinista government has been fighting the contras for six years, had already predicted 1988 would be a further year of war in his country.

Mr. Reagan has said he will seek \$270 million in military aid to the contras for an 18-month period but sentiment in Congress appears strongly against further funding the rebels.

Third Kabul convoy arrives in Khost

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — A 229-vehicle convoy carrying food and other necessities arrived Friday at the city of Khost in south eastern Afghanistan, Radio Kabul reported.

The Pushtu-language broadcast monitored in Islamabad said the convoy carried 1,398 tons of food and supplies. It was the third of its kind reported to have reached

the city since the Kabul government announced Wednesday that the strategic Gardiz-Khost Road had reopened and was safe for travel.

The radio made no mention of fighting in Khost, 34 kilometres east of the Pakistani border, where Afghan government forces and Soviet troops launched a major offensive on Dec. 19

against Afghan guerrillas controlling the city for the past eight years.

Kabul has said the offensive, launched by an estimated 20,000 Soviet troops and Afghan government security forces, was successful, enabling the Afghan government to send its first convoy of 155 vehicles to Khost on Wednesday with 1,200 tons of food and other supplies.

Ireland criticises U.K. coverup of 1957 nuclear accident

LONDON (R) — Britain's cover-up of the world's second-worst nuclear accident, a 1957 fire at the Windscale Nuclear Plant in north west England, has prompted criticism from both Irish government and British opposition.

According to classified government documents released on Friday after a 30-year interval, a full report on the fire that cited major technical defects was suppressed by then Prime Minister Harold MacMillan.

The Irish government on Friday repeated its demand for the closure of the plant, now a nuclear waste reprocessing facility, renamed Sellafield, that pumps

waste water into the Irish Sea. Irish Energy Minister Ray Burke, speaking in Dublin, said the new disclosures proved the plant was a constant danger to the people of Ireland.

Ireland says leaks from Sellafield have made the Irish Sea the most radioactive in the world. Britain's Labour opposition spokesman on the environment, Jack Cunningham, said disclosure of the cover-up represented a major boost to the campaign for a freedom of information act.

"Now complete openness must be the rule... we cannot accept that anything like that should happen again," he said.

13 die in Thai hotel fire

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Police on Saturday said they arrested a rescue worker for looting the bodies of some of the 13 people who died in a New Year's Day hotel fire.

The four-hour fire killed seven Singaporeans, two Malaysians, an American, a Taiwanese, and one unidentified person. An Australian woman plunged to her death from a helicopter carrying her from the nine-storey First Hotel.

Lt.-Col. Nutthee Vongthaporn, chief of the Phya Thai Police Station, said more than 40 others were injured as the pre-dawn fire swept through the 218-room hotel. It was fully booked with about 400 guests.

He said police had finished searching all rooms Friday night. "It is quite difficult to say the cause of the fire because there's not much evidence," Col. Vongthaporn said. "I believe the police investigation team will tell me the cause within three days."

Col. Vongthaporn said city officials have ordered the hotel closed for 45 days, during which it would be carefully examined. He said police arrested rescue worker Kittisak Prachakpanich, 30, and charged him with stealing money, watches and pens from the bodies. Kittisak worked for the private Portekung Foundation, which retrieves bodies and otherwise aids in disasters.

Hotel guests have complained about widespread looting following the fire.

Capt. Therachai Thongsukkaew of the Phya Thai Station said police had questioned more than 300 hotel guests about the fire, which the hotel manager said started in a second-floor room used for parties.

Capt. Therachai said a Singaporean lost his wife, son, and two grandchildren in the fire. He said the man, whose name he did not know, arrived in Bangkok on Friday and wept as he identified the bodies.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SEARAT
©1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

TOO VIVID AN IMAGINATION

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 53
♥ 76
♦ A K J 8 6
♣ 9 7 4 2

WEST
♠ A Q 4
♥ K 10 8 2
♦ 8 5 3
♣ 3 2 8

EAST
♠ K J 10 9 7
♥ Q 8 4 3
♦ 7 4 2
♣ 5 6

SOUTH
♠ 6 2
♥ A J 7 5
♦ Q 10
♣ A K Q 10 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

Fear is a powerful factor at the bridge table. The belief that something untoward might happen can be as devastating as if the evil really existed. South learned this lesson to his misfortune.

North-South did well to avoid three, no trump, a contract which stood no chance as the cards lie, in favor of a five-club contract that rated to be a laydown. But West found a way to upset declarer's

plans.

He led the ace of spades and continued with the four to his partner's king. East played a third round and declarer, afraid that West had started with a doubleton ace, chose to ruff with the queen.

When East showed out on the second trump, declarer had to concede a trump trick for down one.

This hand illustrates two different types of imagination. First, West's spade lead was not only imaginative but logical. Both opponents had the opportunity to bid no trump, yet both had spurned it.

Therefore, it was very likely that East held the king of spades, so the lead of the ace from A-Q was unlikely to cost a trick.

Declarer suffered from overactive brain cells. If West indeed had started with the doubleton ace of spades, East would have had six spades headed by the K-Q-J. Even if his side were not employing weak jump overcalls, East would certainly have grabbed the opportunity to show the master suit at the one-level. Had declarer taken a few moments to think matters over more clearly, he would have come to the conclusion there was no reason to panic. He could have afforded to ruff low, and the contract would have sailed home.

محمد علي الجبوري